

MaxFund Animal Adoption Center

2012 Annual Report

Thanks for giving us a second chance...



Rescue is challenging, heartbreaking, rewarding and full of miracles. All of that usually takes place on a daily basis.

MaxFund is special because we truly give the time needed to see those miracles take place. It can be costly, but is what we do. Some do not get it because “there are so many to be saved”. This is true, but once they are with MaxFund that is our pledge to them. A chance at life is what they are given.

Other times it is not cost but just time. Time is what the animals have at MaxFund. Time for love, care, trust and hope. Again a chance for the life they deserve.

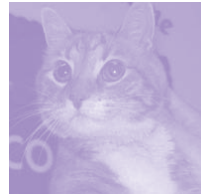
They are not “throw aways”, they are not “too old” or “too sick”; they are special. They are not a number, they are not a statistic. They are MaxFund animals.

-Heidi Hahn, Clinic Director

MAXFUND



MISSION



The MaxFund is a non-profit organization established to provide medical care for injured pets with no known owners and to find new homes for these animals once they have recovered.

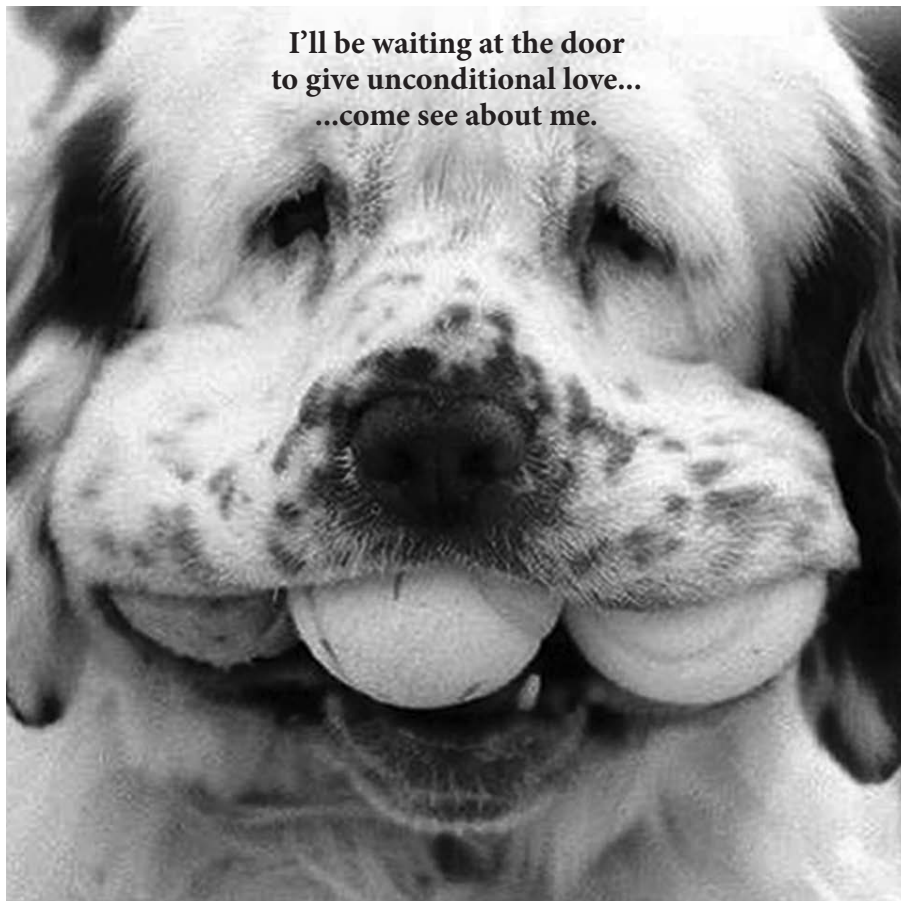
Further, the MaxFund is committed to the following goals:

Develop and implement education programs pertaining to animal care, with emphasis on the importance of spaying and neutering.

Disseminate information on spay/neuter facilities, and, on a periodic basis, conduct a spay/neuter clinic for pets of low income families.

Be a voice for the animals on issues of animal welfare.

Cooperate with other animal facilities/shelters in accomplishing these goals.



Helping our community with their pets!

Over a 25 year period scientific studies of pet ownership have shown benefits for both human and animals. Animals have been demonstrated to improve human cardiovascular health, reduce stress, decrease loneliness and depression, and to facilitate social interaction among people.

MaxFund contribution to the health and welfare of our community is very important to us. We make our streets safer in our community by providing a shelter for animals running at large. Next is the safety issue; animals that are abandoned sometimes carry disease and may bite people and other animals, turn over trash cans, and do other destruction. We provide vaccinations through our low cost clinic as well as give free vaccinations and spaying and neutering through our outreach program. We help by providing a place to take in and rehabilitate injured animals with no know owners it fills a needed void; there is no Denver General for animals but it goes much further than that.

Since Denver has passed a law that all animals over 6 months of age must be spayed or neutered. There has to be a resource for the public to be able to do that, MaxFund has a low cost clinic that provide that service. We also work with Nan Morehead in social services to provide care for the animals of the folks that need help; we also board on a temporary basis animals of battered women and people who go into the hospital. Bite wounds of Denver citizens is a serious problem in emergency rooms now. The other ways we help the community is to help the people with their pets. These range from donating high quality dog/cat food to needy people for their pets. We also have a seniors program and an AIDS program. A group of volunteers regularly take specially screened and certified pets to visit patients in nursing homes and rehab center, especially those requiring long term care. We bring a unique way to cheer up some people with the animal's unconditional love.

In 2012 our vet clinic saw 4011 clients for vaccinations and spaying and neutering. Our outreach program in rural areas has spayed/neutered and vaccinated 1521 animals. We answer over 200 calls a day in our clinic, and 2 shelters; we help the public either by directly addressing their problems or referring them to other resources. Our shelter adopted out 1024 companion animals this year. Our volunteers put in over 24,000 hours in doing all facets of MaxFund. We had over 6100 visitors this year. As of the end of 2012 we had adopted 32,000+ animals, and spayed and neutered 48,000 since our inception.

We have received our 9th consecutive 4-Star Charity Navigator Award which places us in the top 2% of all the charities they rate for fiscal management and growth. We are also Debt free.

Programs:

Food Program for those who cannot afford food for their animals ,Canine and Felines for Seniors and AIDS Clients, Hospice program for our animals, Champs dog training program, Foster Program, Therapy Program for hospital and nursing homes, Spay/Neuter Program, Matching Funds for animals that owners need help with surgery, Pet Pals, and Memorial Programs.

We want the animals to have healthier lives and it benefits safety to the public: to help keep animals from running at large, less bite cases, promoting of responsible pet care and helping protect the public from aggressive or diseased animals.

Nanci Suro; cofounder
Elizabeth Grice; President

Officers:	Board:	Advisory Board:
Elizabeth Grice, President Dr. William Suro, Vice President Tami Tanoue, Secretary Elizabeth Grice, Treasurer	Jan Eckhardt Ruth Garcia	Josh Hantman; Attorney-Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck LLP Ann Williams; Director-Public Works City and County of Denver Bob Murdock; Owner-RLM Builders Ray Perry; Senior VP-Servo Miller Real Estate

Rescue Animals aren't broken. They've simply experienced more life than other animals. If they were human, we would call them wise. They would be the ones with tales to tell and stories to write. The ones dealt a bad hand who responded with courage. Don't pity them. Do something! Donate. Volunteer. Foster. Adopt. And be proud to have their greatness by your side.

~Author unknown
Found at Focus on Rescue

ABOUT 2012

So many times I am asked, "Why did you ever get into animal rescue? You could have had your own business or done other things." This is true, but animals touch my heart. They have ever since I was a child. I was raised on a farm in South Carolina where animals were part of everyday life. This is true from our old mule, Joe, to my pet chicken named Jenny. It is my passion, and it is wonderful to be a steward of God's creatures as your life's work.

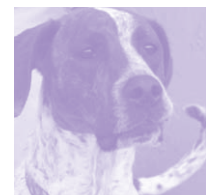
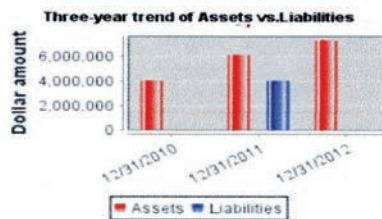
Has it been easy? No. I have seen times of wondering how we were going to make payroll, pay medical expenses, etc. It has always been provided by all of you who became part of this vision in helping to save animals. From 1988 till 2003, I was a volunteer. Eric Taylor who was the Director for Animal Assistance paid me a high compliment by saying: "I know MaxFund will survive if you have to pull things through with your teeth." This is not about me but about all of you, who make that extra effort to support MaxFund. Look what you have done. We own our buildings debt free, our vans, and our mobile adoption unit. Unlike other facilities, we do not euthanize to make space for more animals. We accept them as they come to us, and we take care of their medical needs and teach them to love and trust again. The MaxFund is limited, but we do all we can and we strive to do even more. We think education is very important as well as one of our major projects is spaying and neutering. It makes our neighborhood safer for both the people and their pets. We truly care about our supporters; we want to be the voice for the animals. We want to save lives and make life better for people and their pets. We could never do this without you. Thank you for your kindness.

MaxFund is a non-profit true no-kill shelter and adoption center that challenges the traditional methods of animal sheltering by leading the no-kill movement in Colorado because MaxFund strives to give animals, including injured, abandoned, and abused "a second chance at life."

In Respect of life,
 Nanci Suro
 cofounder

Financial Information for Fiscal Year Ending: 12/31/2012

Revenue:		Expenses:	
Contributions:	\$553,438.00	Program Service:	\$1,592,242.00
Government Grants:	\$0.00	Admin Mgmt General:	\$352,592.00
Program Service Revenue:	\$0.00	Fundraising:	\$49,882.00
Investments:	\$90,431.00	Payments to Affiliates:	\$0.00
Special Events:	\$69,521.00	Other expenses:	\$0.00
Sales:	\$890,262.00		
Other:	\$1,562,459.00		
Total Revenue:	\$3,166,111.00	Total Expenses:	\$1,994,716.00



[Financial Ratios:](#) [FYE 2010-2012] [Ratios Discussion Paper](#)

Program Services to Total Expenses: 82%
 Fundraising Expenses to Contributions: 4%

PHOENIX – OUT OF THE ASHES

By Heidi Hahn

Imagine, if you will, a little stray terrier mix digging through the trash in your alley. No, we are not replaying the Benji movie, although there is some resemblance to the dog in the film. She looks nasty: dirty and smelly, with hair matted and stuck to her skin. Something is definitely wrong with her, but she is friendly and lets you get a leash on her. You know that you can't take care of her medical problems, but you feel a need to help her. You have heard about the MaxFund so you take her there.

That is how the story of the dog named Phoenix began. She was brought to the MaxFund August 7th, 2012, and she has certainly lived up to the name of the Greek god that rose from the ashes. Phoenix was a dog with a large ulcer in the cornea of her right eye, and her head and body were covered with weeping scabs. Several weeks of intensive treatment and tons of loving care transformed this woebegone waif into a loving, healthy, spunky young lady – full of entertaining antics. You have to be careful. When Phoenix has

been securely put to bed, she may suddenly appear in your lap.

What caused the original massive skin damage, we will never know. The doctors theorized that maybe it was caused by a caustic chemical or boiling liquid. Maybe an accident? Negligence? Or deliberate malice? Why should we speculate? Phoenix' skin will always **bear** some scars, but her spirit shines through. She doesn't dwell on the past; she revels in the love she feels at the MaxFund. She hasn't met all you MaxFunders who made this little miracle possible, but he volunteers and staff sure thank you for making it all happen!

All that remains is that last big step. Phoenix is a very special girl who deserves a very special family of her own.

Thank you – MaxFund.



MOSES

By Heidi Hahn

One of the latest cases of severe trauma handled by the MaxFund is a little dog named Moses, an unneutered male 3 ½ year old Chihuahua mix brought to us on August 29, 2012. The owner could not afford the orthopedic surgery recommended by all the clinics he checked with.

At the MaxFund we found that Moses did indeed have a fractured femur (the thigh bone), but that wasn't his biggest problem. He also had a completely paralyzed tail, a flaccid anus with little sense of feeling, a horribly swollen and bruised scrotum (testicle sack), and a smashed sacrum. The sacrum is the caboose at the end of the long train of bones that make up the spine. It normally protects the nerves that go to the bladder, rectum, tail, and part of the hind leg.

A tail is something that Moses could do without, but what about bladder and bowel function? Could he go at all? Would he be incontinent? Would he even know when he was going? Fortunately Moses gained control of both functions during a five day medical treatment and evaluation period. Another good thing that occurred during this period was that Moses bonded with vet tech, Becki, who took personal care of him, and stopped acting scared and shy.

Obviously, after being crushed so badly we had to make sure that there were no hidden internal injuries that might compromise Moses' life during surgery, or after. He passed those tests too. So, on September 3, 2012, Moses had his tail amputated and his femur surgically repaired at the MaxFund clinic by our orthopedic surgeon, Dr. Dixon.

Moses now looks like a miniature Aussie/Shepherd cross and has complete control of his bodily functions. He really loves his twice daily physical therapy sessions over at the clinic. Some of you have seen this phenomenon in your own pets, but Moses actually smiles when he feels happy. Going from the first picture you see to that little confident smile is another reason why the MaxFund is so special, restoring both body and soul.

Thank you for your generous donations that make all this possible!

Pawnote: If you wondered why we mentioned that Moses had not been neutered, we did so because the great majority of male dogs that come to the MaxFund after being hit by a car haven't been neutered. Just another reason for neutering.



SQUIRT

Wow what a journey for me so far!

I was found wandering downtown by the light rail on December 11, 2011. That would be dangerous enough for my sighted friends, but I have mature cataracts due to my diabetes that was raging out of control so I would have never seen anything coming. I was a scrawny 9 pounds when I was found and brought to the MaxFund. I have always had the greatest spirit from the beginning. I have always been ready and willing to trust and to accept the love that has been showered upon me here.

I am now 20 pounds and am just right! My diabetes is almost controlled too! I get two insulin shots and have no problem with them. I love my special diabetic diet too! The super eye specialist at VRCC, Dr. Nuhsbaum, said I am now ready for cataract surgery!

I need to get it in the next three months is possible. I need your help. MaxFund needs your help to make this dream come true for me. Since I am a dog, I get along just fine with the minimal sight I have, but it really would be great to not bump into things when I get excited, or to see the faces of everyone that loves me. I feel the love, I would like to see the faces that go along with it. I hear them talk about me at the clinic where I am living and sleeping on my back at the moment (see pictures). They say that I am a SUPER smart boy already, and if given sight, I could probably balance the county's budget. Whatever that means. I love toys and love people. If you are interested in donating to the MaxFund for the gift of my sight, please let them know that you want your donation to go to Squirt's cataract surgery.

Just like the kids in your home I have a TON of nicknames. AKA at the clinic as: Squirtle The Turtle, Squirtington, and Peabody to name a few. I think they are all grand.

Just to give you an idea, the surgery is around \$3300! And that is with a generous discount from our friends at VRCC! That is what the MaxFund does though. They will get me taken care of, but that is \$3300 that will need to cover one of my other friends that live here at some point too.

Even though I love my home at the MaxFund, if anyone is interested in adopting me that would be the icing on my lucky cake. The little trouble that I am is worth it. Call the clinic if you are ready for me at 303-595-0532.

Thanks for anything you can do to help! And thank you for your love and support of this very special place to me.

With love and thanks,
Squirt (Est DOB 1/2007) Manchester Terrier



Me on the lucky day I was brought to the MaxFund 12/11/11. I looked a fright but I consider this the best Christmas present ever. I call these "Safe at MaxFund".



Me laying on my back on 6/1/12. This is the position that you will normally see me sleeping in the clinic office. They like to cover me and "play baby". I totally dig it!



Me with my diaper on 6/3/12 playing with my toys. The clinic puts me in a diaper until they can get my diabetes totally managed.

See I sometimes drink a lot of water (a sign of diabetes) and in turn pee a lot. Since they want me in the office with them, this is a perfect solution! You can see my nubby tail work the diaper when I am excited. The clinic could also use diaper donations for me too. I must have Depends, (the pull up kind) S/M MEN'S version. I find the gray to be very big boy and stylish.

A BOX O' PUPPIES

By Heidi Hahn

Who doesn't like puppies? Probably the creator of "Peanuts", Charles Schultz, said it best, "Happiness is a warm puppy." Well there is no happiness at the MaxFund Wellness Center when critically ill puppies are brought to us in batches, puppies that are in the process of dying of parvo. Unhappiness doesn't come close to describing our feelings while dealing with this epidemic. "Heartbreaking" would be a better word, especially because parvo is so easy to prevent (with a very effective vaccine) and so hard to treat.

A slew of pups were relinquished to the MaxFund shelter, and brought over to the clinic, between late May and early July. The last batch of four very sick 6-week old puppies came in a box. Parvo kills quickly, often in a matter of a few days, sometimes in less than 24 hours. The victims need intensive care continuously over 24 hours so the MaxFund sends them to 24 hour emergency clinics to be treated. Like most other acute viral diseases, some outbreaks are worse than others. This was a very bad one. We feel very gratified that we were able to save the lives of more than half of those puppies; with the strain of parvo we dealt with this year, that was a very good survival rate.

To be honest, even with the generous discounts offered to the MaxFund by the emergency clinics, that six weeks blew our medical services budget. But the MaxFund, being what it is, had to give those puppies a chance. Now all of the recovered pups have been spayed or neutered and ALL HAVE BEEN ADOPTED.

They survived because MaxFund was there for them. MaxFund survives because of people like you. Thank you from them and thank you from us.



The puppies arrived in a box.



Puppies in a clean, warm kennel.



2 healthy puppies-happy and adopted (Macy and Dillard)

MAXFUND PROGRAMS



Foster Program

MaxFund is looking for foster parents willing to foster animals in need of a safe, caring environment in which to reach their full loving potential. Animals in our loving foster homes are much easier to adopt because they heal more quickly from any existing injuries or medical procedures and don't suffer from some of the more common issues found in shelter animals: obesity, depression, anxiety, fear, or other health issues.

For approved foster parents, MaxFund will provide on-going access to the Foster Coordinators and or Veterinary Technicians to answer any health or behavior related questions, vaccines, medications, collar and tags, prescription food, and veterinary care at the MaxFund Wellness Center.

Fostering is a very rewarding experience and allows animals to be in a more comfortable environment before they find their forever home. If you can help, please e mail to fostering@maxfund.org, or call the shelter to get started at 303-595-4917.

Animals placed in foster care gain the experience of living in a home. They are in a less stressful environment and have more opportunities for socialization. Fosters receive more attention and exercise on a one to one basis. They have someone to bond with and understand them.

MaxFund maintains foster parents that have supported MaxFund for an extended period of time. Foster parents also provide more community exposure of MaxFund and participate at monthly events.

MaxFund has a Dog Foster Coordinator, Amy Allan; and a Cat Foster Coordinator who are readily available to speak with or follow-up with. These two ladies also make regular contact with MaxFund foster parents to see if there has been interest in the animal's adoption, update personality information and follow their progress.

In some cases our foster placements are long term, but 100% of our foster animals are eventually adopted to a forever loving home! Many times the foster parent will become attached and adopt the animal themselves!



Volunteer Program

MaxFund relies on its volunteers to fill many of the needs at the shelter, and the volunteer program is extremely flexible and rewarding! No matter what your interest in helping MaxFund, there are likely many things you can do!

Areas of volunteer opportunity include:

- Animal Care- Housekeeping
- Special Events, Mobile Adoptions, and Fundraising
- Lobby Greeting and Animal Adoptions

In order to volunteer at the shelter for ANY of the volunteer positions listed, you must first be accepted as a volunteer and go through a volunteer orientation. Once volunteers have gone through an orientation, they can do just about anything at the shelter, based on whatever interests you have. For more information on getting started as a volunteer, and to download a volunteer application, please visit www.maxfund.org.

Every month 25 to 40 new volunteers are recruited, and the mission of MaxFund is shared with animal lovers! It is important to us that we can encourage each and every new volunteer to stick around long term. The animals need them!

MaxFund is so appreciative and reliant on all the volunteers that come to exercise and love our animals. After 23 years of being in operation, volunteers are the base of the shelter and have a crucial role in supporting the mission of MaxFund. They observe our pets, participate in training and socialization, and they enable the pets to get more exercise than the staff can provide on an individual basis. There are over 500 active volunteers and we can never thank them enough for sharing their personal time with the animals in need!

The MaxFund Volunteer Coordinator, is regularly in touch with all volunteers about questions, concerns, ideas for improvement, and other suggestions. She is readily available to help and answer any questions and guide you through the process to support the MaxFund animals.

When you walk into MaxFund, it is clear that the volunteers are valued and appreciated. At any given time there are more volunteers than staff members who are willing to walk dogs, spend time with cats, help feed and clean, do dishes, or catch up on laundry. Together we keep the shelter clean and the animals happy!



Pet Food Supply Program

For those people struggling in this economy and having difficulty supplying food to their cats and dogs, MaxFund is here to help. MaxFund offers a food giveaway program for individuals on a low income. You can come in once a month for a free bag of cat food or dog food for your family pet. Proof of income and state identification are required to enroll, and there are no special requests. MaxFund runs on donations only, so what there is extra of is what we can provide.

MaxFund has prevented many animals from coming in to shelters simply because their owners cannot afford to feed them. With our struggling economy, we are here to help feed the animals.



Outreach Program

Our mobile unit travels the I-25 corridor from Trinidad/Alamosa to Weld County spaying and neutering animals in rural communities. MaxFund has always believed in spaying and neutering. From the beginning in 1988 we made it one of our missions. As we grew, so did the problem of pet over-population.

In 1995, we were receiving calls requesting that we expand the program. We began performing spay/neuters in fire stations and at community centers; not only locally but in rural communities. We are sometimes asked to come to trailer parks where cats have been left; our last project included 80 cats. We also helped when Lowry AFB closed. We trapped, spayed/neutered and found homes for those cats.

We had humble beginnings indeed and started with an old converted Snap-on-tool truck. Our driver took us to rural areas, trailer parks, shelters just surviving and neighborhoods wanting help. We even go to the sheriff's department in Weld County to help with spaying/neutering and vaccinations. We resorted sometimes to using kitchen tables for surgery. We knew the need and had to address it, so we started a capital campaign.

We researched basic mobile units to start as we had grown out of our old van. We found the van types were too expensive, so we opted for a trailer. Ron and Nancy Soule were the first to donate enough funds to almost cover the cost of the trailer. Essentially, they were the ones who gave us a base to start the program. The Soule family still gives us a grant each year as the base of our SN program. We were fortunate with many blessings as money continued to come in. With that we bought a used 1995 truck.

We are proud of the fact that both the truck and trailer are still in operation today. Our mobile unit alone spays and neuter about 1000 animals a year in the rural area. Dr. Beth Watts is our veterinarian and sets up the clinics. She generally does 20 animals a day and the clinics go from 1 to 3 days. In today's economic times it is important that people know that they have a resource that can help the health of their pet. As we travel in the rural areas, we find that it is difficult sometimes for those individuals to take care of themselves, much less for their animals. This program makes a huge difference in saving lives of the animals, giving peace of mind to communities and helping people with their pets.



Adoption Program

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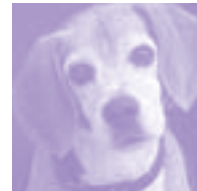
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WHAT ELSE IS UNIQUE ABOUT THE MAXFUND?

MaxFund is a TRUE no-kill shelter. There is no initial pre-sorting of animals into “adoptable” and “non-adoptable” categories, discarding the so-called “unadoptable.” The MaxFund takes every animal it has the space for. EVERY animal is kept until its owner is found or it is placed in a new adoptive home. The only reason for euthanasia is when it is in the humane interest of the animal. No animal is discarded to municipal shelters for them to be euthanized when the prescribed number of days run out. Because our animals usually start off with a medical bill and period of recovery and rehabilitation, and because we are a true no-kill shelter, our operating costs are much higher than other shelters.

We also provide:

- Low cost vaccinations, pet food, and spay/neuter clinics for pets of low income families.
- No-fee adoptions, pet food, cat litter and transportation for veterinary services for senior citizens and AIDS patients.
- Therapy Program which takes pets to visit senior centers, the VA Hospital and nursing homes.



IN SUMMARY

As we head into 2013, we want to thank you for your support and believing in us as we continue to grow and to help as many animals as we can. Your support is our lifeline, we could not accomplish any of this without you. We are looking forward towards another great year working for the animals. The wonderful animals are why we are here: and the inspirations is what carries us on to do the best for them. In return they enrich our lives and those who support and adopt them. *Thank you.*