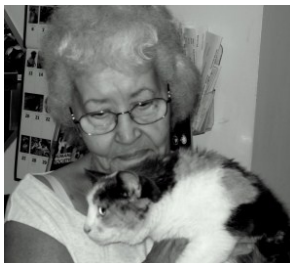


Is there anything greater than the gift of love?

A starving cat found frozen in place on an asphalt road in January is cradled in a blanket for hours by the Local Humane staff, who each hold hot water bottles against her until she can move again. At less than 6 pounds she is half her weight. She is nursed back to her full 12 pounds, and adopted by an older woman whose only companion was a cat who has recently died. Callie is spoiled; fed every day near her favorite place to sleep - next to the living room heater.



Is there anything greater than the gift of love?

A blind, deaf, 16 year old Spaniel is brought in to be euthanized after his owner loses her home. The loss of his Mom and familiar surrounding is too much for the heartbroken dog, and he is scheduled for a humane release. Knowing the dog has no chance at adoption and moved by the dog's abandonment, a Local Humane staff member takes him home and showers him with affection. Bathed and well fed, the dog spends the night sleeping in a warm bed at her house. But he never stops crying for his Mom. He is put to sleep the next day, but since no one claims his remains the loving staff member takes him back home with her, where she sprinkles his ashes in the clear waters of a fast moving creek. Crying, she says aloud "You're free now".

Is there anything greater than the gift of love?

Carly, a 3 year old white Labrador mix is rescued from a life on a 4 foot chain. Her only shelter from the bitter winter cold has been a flat piece of corrugated tin leaned against an outbuilding behind the house where she can be seen from the window in the warm kitchen. Fed only once or twice a week, she is stick thin and starving. Once rescued and placed in a foster home she is terrified of every move a human being makes near her. In fear she breaks loose and escapes in to the woods during a walk. Her foster parents, and Local Humane staff and volunteers, spend three weeks searching every day. Finally captured after hundreds of invested man hours Carly is permanently adopted by her foster parents. Two years later she is happy, and spends more time on the couch than her Dad.



Is there anything greater than the gift of love?

This holiday season, your gift can be a warm bed, a hot meal, and medical care for an animal that has no where else to turn. Your gift is a second chance at survival, and the opportunity for someone to find the friend they need in a dog or cat at Local Humane. This holiday season give the Local Shelter the ability to continue providing for the countless animals in need in our area.

Give love, the greatest gift of all.