

Humane Legacy



THE HUMANE SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES

Pamela and Mark's Akita,
Mukee, now have each other.

A promise kept

Model, actor, business owner and philanthropist

Mark Hopkins Schell was also an animal lover—and his canine companions sustained him throughout his life.

Although Mark had a soft spot for Akitas, he cared about all animals, recalls friend Pamela Thorsch. "He recognized their incredible intelligence, their innate understanding and sensitivity to the world around them, their own unique language, their genuine curiosity—and, most of all, their unconditional love," she says. "He saw this in all creatures."

Mark passed away in August 2016 and left the majority of his estate to organizations that could make a difference for animals. "He felt that the programs of The Humane Society of the United States have integrity and have an impact on the areas he was most concerned with, such as spay and neuter efforts," says Pamela. "He also liked that The HSUS's outreach was not only in the U.S., but is expanding globally.

By sharing The HSUS's knowledge, systems and operations in other parts of the world, he felt that great strides could be made for animal welfare."

Mark appointed Pamela as successor trustee and executor of his estate—and the guardian of his beloved Akita, Mukee. "This entire year has been an act of love, carrying out Mark's wishes," says Pamela, "and of ensuring that he was honored with a legacy for the incredible person he was."

The HSUS Planned Giving team and Office of General Counsel are grateful to Pamela and others like her who help realize the intentions of their loved ones and friends. To learn more about creating your own legacy for animals, contact Steve Maughan, smaughan@humanesociety.org or 800-808-7858, or visit humanesociety.org/legacy.

Direct care continues after hurricane waters recede

When the emergency alarm sounds, the HSUS Animal Rescue Team mobilizes—and the 2017 hurricane season kept the team busier than ever. Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria wreaked havoc in rapid succession, and our emergency responders helped more than 5,500 pets and wild animals from affected areas in Texas, Florida and Puerto Rico. Once the flood waters receded, however, our work didn't stop. HSUS staff members, in partnership with local organizations, often provide ongoing care for those affected by disaster, and this hurricane season was no exception.

For example, through generous funding from the Alex & Elisabeth Lewyt Charitable Trust and in partnership with the local nonprofit Emancipet, The HSUS provided free veterinary services for Houston pets whose owners felt the impact of Hurricane Harvey. From late August until December, The HSUS sent staff members, veterinarians and veterinary technicians on a rotation schedule to work on-site with the Emancipet team. In the program's first month, 1,705 pets received examinations and more than 1,500 owners scheduled spay and neuter procedures. On the clinic's busiest day, veterinarians saw 173 pets.

"Harvey dealt an especially harsh blow to families at or below the poverty line, compounding the challenge of meeting life's necessities, including the needs of their



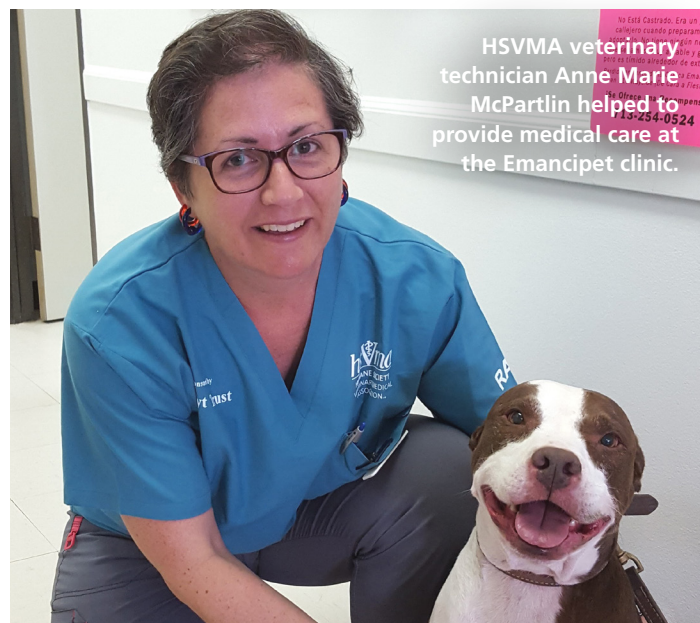
Johanie with one of the new friends she made during her time in Houston.

beloved pets," said HSUS President and CEO Wayne Pacelle. "We know how much pets mean to their families, and our goal is to keep all members of the family together."

In late October, HSUS executive assistant Johanie Parra took a break from her usual duties at HSUS headquarters to assist with the Emancipet clinic. Working alongside staff and volunteers from our Rural Area Veterinary Services (RAVS) program, which is operated by HSUS's veterinary affiliate, Johanie performed patient intake, weighed pets, assisted the veterinarians, cleaned cages and documented stories of the pets and their owners.

The days were long, but the work was gratifying. "People start lining up as early as 4:30 in the morning, and the clinic didn't open until 10," Johanie noted. "Yet no one complained about the long wait. Many of the dogs were heartworm-positive, and there were a number of cases of parvo. It was heartbreaking to see the need these people have, but the love they have for their animals was heartwarming. Once I explained what The HSUS is and how we helped, they said 'thank you' and 'bless you' over and over again. It was a joy to spend my time in such a meaningful way."

Visit humanesociety.org/animalrescue to learn more about our Animal Rescue Team.



FROM TOP: JOHANIE PARRA/THE HSUS, LAUREN KLOER/THE HSUS

**Your legacy gift can help us fight for all animals.
Contact us to learn more.**

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