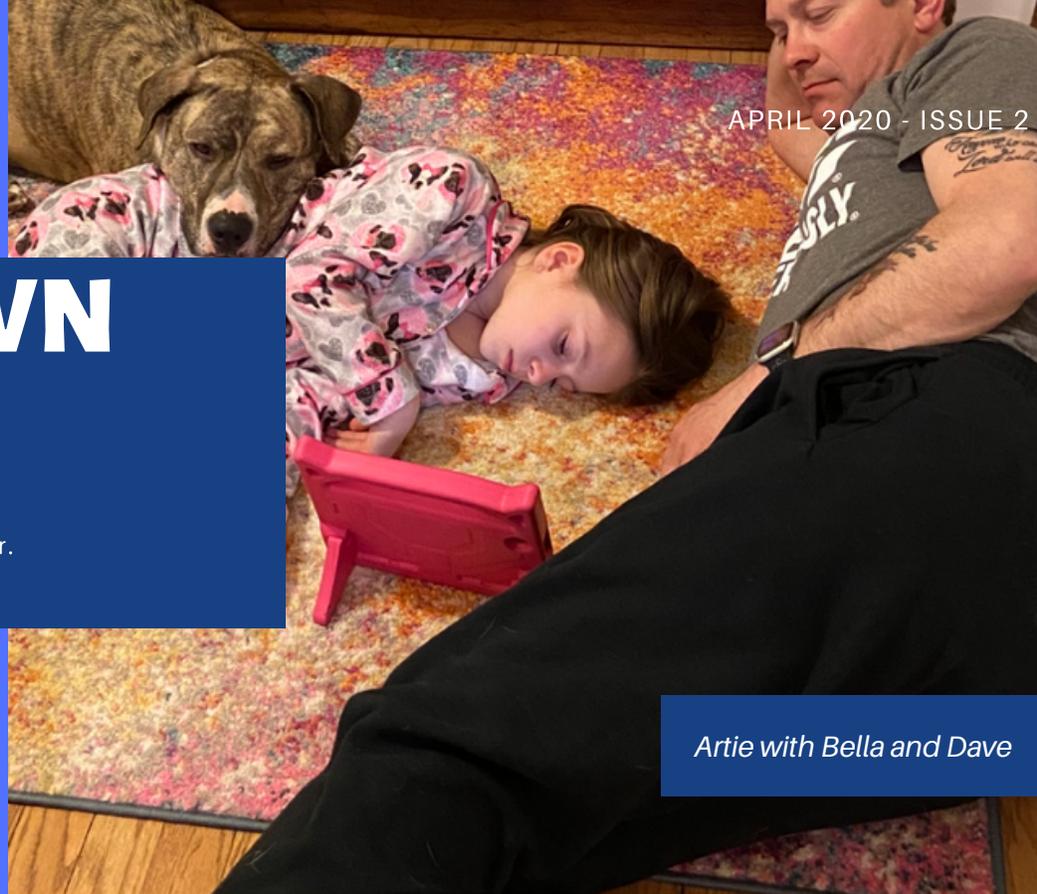


# WATERTOWN TAILS

The Watertown Humane Society newsletter.



Artie with Bella and Dave



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## FOR THE LOVE OF A DOG

The first time Dave met Artie, the brindle pittie mix didn't care much for Dave. Despite his fears and best judgement, Dave returned the next day to spend more time with Artie.

Dave came back the next day and the day after that until it was commonplace to see Dave the volunteer at the shelter everyday to walk his shy new friend. They worked together to help Artie gain much needed self-confidence and resilience to face his many fears. Slowly, the brindle pup went from a withdrawn and cautious dog to the most outgoing dog at the shelter.

Yet, life for Artie at the shelter still wasn't a home. He loved his caretaker Dave and enjoyed spending weekends at their home. Artie had never used stairs or heard video games, so he spent many days being reassured by his friend Dave that he was safe.

*Continued...*

## ...ARTIE & DAVE CONTINUED

It was increasingly clear where Artie should belong. However, Dave's young daughter, Bella, had sadly been shaken by a scary dog encounter previously, and she needed time and trust to let Artie into her life. Little by little, Artie proved how much he loved Bella and worked hard on gaining her trust. It was a good sign that Artie was ready for his new life.

Dave loved his dog and never gave up on Artie, even after a whole year in the shelter. They worked together on training and trust. Dave knew the potential he had to be an amazing dog. Over Valentine's Day weekend, Dave took Artie home - this time for good.



Artie posing for his shelter headshot



Tori, long-term resident at WHS, snuggles with Dad in her new home.

## SHARE YOUR STORIES WITH US!

We recently launched a new Facebook group where adopter alumni can share pictures and stories of their pets adopted at Watertown Humane Society friends. It has been extremely rewarding to see pictures and videos of our previous residents, both recent and old, thriving in their forever homes.

This group has also been a great resource for adopters to ask questions and get advice from both our staff and other adopters. If you have adopted us from before, either recently or a long time ago, we encourage you to join our group! Check us out at [facebook.com/groups/whsadoptalumni](https://facebook.com/groups/whsadoptalumni) We look forward to "seeing" you there!

## PUPPY SNEAK PEEKS

We are excited to announce a new program to help get our transfer dogs into happy homes faster! Each month, we send an email out to our 'pre-approved' adopters with a list of the dogs arriving from our partner shelters in Texas. These shelters are commonly overcrowded and need our help to get the adorable pups out before their time is up!

Families who are pre-approved get a 'sneak peek' of our incoming animals before the general public, and people who are looking for a specific breed or age will be on the top of the list of potential adopters. To be pre-approved, please visit [whsadopt.org/adopt](https://whsadopt.org/adopt) to fill out our dog adoption questionnaire.



Bonnie, now Lucy, arrives from Texas.

# COVID-19 AND OUR SHELTER



As winter came to an end, no one could anticipate what spring had in store for us. Just when we thought we were planning graduations, vacations and enjoyment of the warmer weather, we were instead faced with Covid-19. Our shelter jumped into action and reached out to those we could rely on - our volunteers, foster homes, adopters and supporters like you. We asked you to help find our animals forever homes - and quick. You shared our posts, you called your friends and neighbors, and together we found 55 of our animal's homes in less than two weeks. Our feline friends are now enjoying all the extra snuggle time while our dogs are loving the several long walks a day!

Even as an essential business, the shelter is very quiet now. We only have a few cats in residence and the dog kennels are completely shuttered. Sadly, we stopped our life-saving dog transports to do our part to flatten the curve, and won't continue until at least after the shelter-in place order is over. We are still reuniting stray animals with their families and taking in those that truly need us, but most animals go directly into foster care.

What can you do to continue to help when this is all over? For those of you who stepped up as foster homes, we still need you! We house over 800 animals a year, the more animals we can place in foster homes, the more animals we can save. Foster homes are an invaluable part of what we do, they help us to provide a quiet healing space, work on behavioral concerns, and to learn more about the animal's personality and adoptive needs. Please go to [whsadopt.org/foster](http://whsadopt.org/foster) for more information how you can join our foster team!

Additionally, donations are always needed and greatly appreciated. This year, many or all of our fundraisers that we rely on to provide for the animals have been postponed or cancelled. We have always been able to rely on our friends for support, and we know this crisis will be no different.

Thank you all for the part you played in the success of our response, you made what seemed impossible possible. This was the most beautiful display of animal loving teamwork, and we are so grateful. We look forward to a brighter future saving our animals and serving our community – with you.

*Heather VanDam*

*Director of Operations, Watertown Humane Society*

## SHELTER STAFF

Amy L. - Director of Animal Care  
Jenny - Marketing Manager  
Julie - Adoption Counselor/Animal Control  
Lindsay. - Sr. Kennel Attendant/Animal Control  
Brittany - Lead Kennel Attendant  
Anne - Kennel Attendant  
Deb - Kennel Attendant

Heather - Director of Operations  
Ericka - Adoption Counselor  
Amy G. - Sr. Kennel Attendant  
Meghan - Sr. Kennel Attendant  
Ramona - Lead Kennel Attendant  
Cheyenne - Kennel Attendant  
Nathan - Kennel Attendant

## SHELTER INFORMATION

Address: 418 Water Tower Ct.  
Watertown, WI 53094  
Phone: 920-261-1270  
Website: [www.whsadopt.org](http://www.whsadopt.org)  
Hours: M: 12-6PM, TU/W/F: 12-5PM,  
Sat: 11-3PM, THUR/SUN: CLOSED

# VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Our shelter's success can be measured by the dedication of our amazing volunteers who spend countless hours helping our animals. Donna Hartwig and Gillian Moldenhauer are true examples of dedicated volunteers.



With Donna having over 20 years of service and Gillian 14, they have been coming to the shelter on an almost daily basis to give love to the kitties who await their forever homes.

Not a cat who enters the shelter doesn't anxiously await Gillian and Donna's food truck full of yummy wet food. Frequently, its because of their watchful eye and years of experience that they catch emergent medical issues before they happen!

They are so invested in the shelter. Commonly, Donna will pick up kittens at the Johnson Creek Vet Clinic and pay off the entire bill!

Donna and Gillian spend many hours together feeding and caring for our feline residents

It's a good bet that if you ever donated to our shelter, you received a beautiful thank you card written personally by Gillian. She spends countless evenings helping the shelter by thanking you!

You are both amazing people and we're so grateful for you. You have been the bright spot for so many cats. You gave them hope, comfort and solace at a time that they needed it most. Thank you.

## SHOW YOUR SUPPORT WITH WHS SWAG! OUR ONLINE STORE IS NOW OPEN!



**T-SHIRTS**



**HOODIES**



**LONG  
SLEEVES**



**KIDS**

[BONFIRE.COM/STORE/WHS/](https://bonfire.com/store/whs/)

**RETURNED  
TO OWNER**



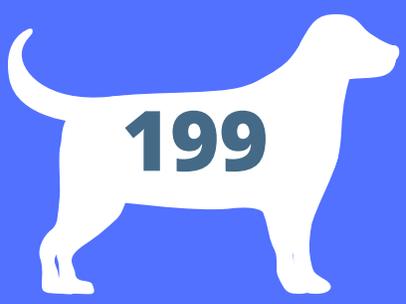
**NO. OF  
PETS  
FOSTERED**

**70**

**2019.....**  
we helped  
819 animals



**DOGS  
ADOPTED**



**CATS  
ADOPTED**

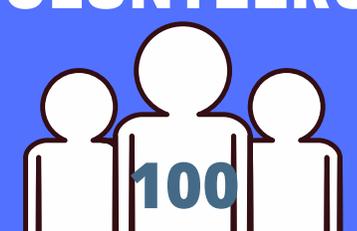


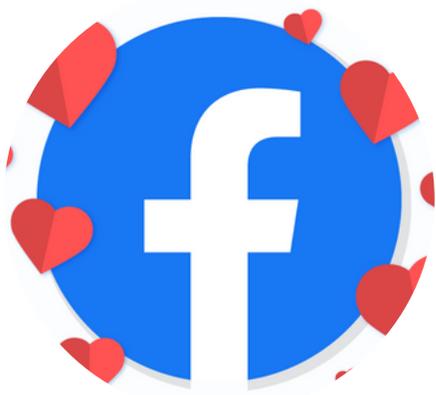
**DOGS  
TRANSFERRED  
FROM THE  
SOUTH**



**136**

**NO. OF  
SHELTER  
VOLUNTEERS**





## Birthday coming up? Party with us!!

Facebook Birthday Fundraisers have become a huge way for our supporters to not only give back but to help share our mission with others. We've raised over \$5000 last year alone from generous supporters.

Please visit [facebook.com/fund/whsadopt](https://facebook.com/fund/whsadopt) to set yours up today!



We are so thankful to have the support of Dr. Amy Hudson, Dr. Rachel Yohn, and all the staff from Johnson Creek Veterinary Care. They continually provide top-notch care and fit us into their busy schedules whenever needed. Their vet techs are incredibly caring towards our animals and we are so grateful for their entire team.

We couldn't be the shelter we are without you!

## PINTS FOR PAWS

Thanks to all of our supporters, Pints for Paws at Ixonia Pub was a HUGE success. We were able to raise over \$6000 for our shelter pets. We hope everyone had a great time and look forward to this event next year!



Heather, our Director of Operations posing with our VP, Corey and President, Cassie. Good work Team!

## RABIES CLINIC

Our rabies clinic was a huge success again this year! This year we were able to administer:

Rabies - 44	Distemper/Parvo - 26
Microchips - 10	Bordetella - 11

The success of this community event wouldn't be possible if it weren't for the donation of time and talent from Dr. Lapin. He continues to support this event each year and we are so grateful! Thank you!



# RECENTLY ADOPTED!



## WISH LIST

Walmart, Tractor Supply Gift Cards  
Purina One Kitten Chow  
Purina One Cat Chow  
Durable/Tough Chewer Dog Toys/Chews  
Dog Training Treats  
Peanut Butter  
Hand Soap  
Laundry Detergent  
Dishwasher Pods

Purina One Dog Chow  
Purina One Puppy Chow  
Cat Toys  
Small martingale(non-slip) collars  
White Copy Paper  
Blue Pocket Folders  
Postage Stamps  
Volunteers!  
Foster Homes!



