

WATERTOWN TAILS

The Watertown Humane Society newsletter.

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WHAT MAKES A HUMANE SOCIETY HUMANE?

Like so many things, the mission behind animal sheltering has grown and evolved. Thanks to science and education, we have been able to learn from various animal sheltering experts what we need to do to save even more animals lives. How many lives can we save? This is a question we ask ourselves and evaluate on a regular basis. What are the best practices to ensure we can help as many animals as possible? Increasing the life-saving capacity of our animal shelter and serving our community through education is the gateway to our success. There are many areas where taking small steps in the right direction can have an immense impact for both animal welfare and the community at large. Some of these efforts include: proactively teaching and assisting elderly pet owners how to create a plan for their pet(s) for when they can't care for them any longer; educating farmers and large property owners in our local rural areas about utilizing low cost spay/neuter clinics to get their working cats altered to help control their feral cat population; and educating our dog adopters and community dog owners on resources to work through problematic behaviors in a humane and force-free manner, which can many times keep a pet in its home. These are all areas we continuously strive to improve upon and areas we plan to prioritize as we, too, grow and evolve. As we learn and prioritize these methods, it has become increasingly apparent that a healthy partnership with our community is necessary for our shared success. This partnership that we strive to create always has the animal's best interests at heart. Even though it may be difficult to hear sometimes, bringing an animal into the shelter isn't always the best option. Many are surprised to hear that we create a pathway for each and every intake we bring into the shelter.

The mission of the Watertown Humane Society is to provide for the lost, homeless, neglected and abused animals of the City of Watertown and surrounding areas

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Most importantly, we strive to find a LIVE outcome for every animal, taking into careful consideration what is the most humane pathway and what will make the animal the happiest. Equally as important, is the knowledge and acceptance that in some cases, “in-home” adoption isn’t always an option, and we, as a community, need to work together to provide a humane outcome for animals. The most common cases of where bringing an animal into the shelter isn't the best option is regarding community cats. Specifically, those cats that were born and have survived outside their entire lives. When you call us, you may hear us compare these cats to a wild animal such as a raccoon or a squirrel. Would a raccoon or squirrel be happy living in a cage here at the humane society? Would our animal care staff be able to safely care for them? We recognize that it is sometimes difficult to hear, but in most cases, it is better that we leave those cats where they are and provide solutions for population control rather than intake these animals. These cats really are happy, and we have made it our mission to educate the community about ways we can co-exist with them peacefully while at the same time controlling the population. We also acknowledge that circumstances arise that result in the need to rehome your pet(s). The presence of social media has been a huge asset to animal rehoming and placement. As you can imagine, bringing an animal who has lived its entire life in the same home into a shelter environment can cause incredible stress, and many times this stress will manifest into illness. It has been proven that working with owners on options to rehome their pet(s) directly from their home to a new home makes the transition much easier on the animal. Many times, it's as simple as placing a courtesy post on the shelter's Petfinder page, or guiding owners to one of the other pet rehoming websites. This helps our owners reach a larger adopting audience, and we can guide them in safely choosing a new home for their pet, making the transition much easier on everyone. The key here is teamwork, working together to safely place more animals in need into new homes. Please remember that even though things may look and sound a little different here at the Watertown Humane Society, change is GOOD. As we continue to learn and grow and modify our procedures to reflect best practices, we look forward to working in partnership with our community to further our mission of rescuing unwanted and abandoned animals of Watertown and the surrounding areas.

CEMETERY UPDATE

Do you have a pet that was buried at our Boomer Street cemetery?
If so, please contact Heather at manager@whsadopt.org

Please note: *There are no new plots available for purchase at this time.*

ONLINE STORE NOW OPEN!

We are excited to have launched our new online store! From t-shirts, to mugs, to tote bags, there truly is something for everyone. Show your support of WHS with some new swag! To see all of the new items we have in stock, visit: www.whsadopt.myprintful.com

VOLUNTEERS PROVIDE OVER 1,000 HOURS OF WORK



Pictured: Robin, Maddie, & Ella who recently gave our community cat room a facelift

In April, the Independent Sector released their most current estimated value of volunteer time, which is \$26.96/hour for the state of Wisconsin. That's a 5.1% increase from the previous year. The estimated national average value is \$28.54. So far this year, our in-shelter volunteer team has provided our shelter 1,082 hours of service, saving the shelter \$29,170.72! Keep in mind that those numbers don't reflect the countless hours that our foster volunteers dedicate to our animals. Our shelter wouldn't be a success without these two impressive teams of volunteers! THANK YOU ALL! Interested in adding to our number of volunteer hours? Visit our website to learn about all the ways you can help: www.whsadopt.org/volunteer

REMEMBERING PAUL PAQUET

Paul Paquet of Ixonia had a passion for animals. He loved having many critters, including horses, at his hobby farm he purchased with his wife Yvonne more than 35 years ago. When Paul passed away after a courageous battle with cancer, it was the Watertown Humane Society that Yvonne chose to be the recipient of donations in his honor. Family and friends contributed a very generous donation to our shelter, remembering Paul. We would like to extend our sincerest sympathy to all who loved Paul. We are honored to remember him alongside his family and friends.



Paul Paquet of Ixonia

GENEROUS COMMUNITY PARTNERS RALLY TOGETHER TO HELP RAISE FUNDS

It can go without saying that the support we receive from not only local residents who volunteer their time and talent but also local businesses who host fundraisers in our honor is humbling. Recently, **The Drafty Cellar and Pidder Padder Paws** both held two fundraisers and we would like to extend our most sincerest thanks to both the businesses and the community!

When The Drafty Cellar first contacted us about us being chosen as their beneficiary for their upcoming anniversary event, we had no idea what an outpour of support both local businesses and the community would show. A silent auction was held with local businesses donating incredible items up for bid and \$2,500 was raised for our new signage project. It's no surprise that we are in the business to save lives. A proper business sign would have an appreciable impact when it comes to garnering both the attention that our animals need to thrive and the recognition that our shelter needs to save even more lives. Our sincere gratitude to The Drafty Cellar, donors, and supporters! Interested in helping us continue to fundraise for this cause? Donate today at www.whsadopt.org/give and specify "sign" in your donation.

Pidder Padder Paws graciously welcomed customers into their store for raffles and buy-one give one promotions. At the end of the night, the total number of donations from the raffle totaled over \$2,300 for our shelter as well countless toys and treats. Kona Ice Lake Country was also outside serving up delicious sno-cones and donated a portion of their sales. Thank you both for supporting our shelter!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Refer to the Watertown Humane Society's Facebook page or website for the most current information.

BRAT FRY

September 18th, 2021 10am-3pm

Join us at Glenn's Market for a brat fry featuring the brat of the week: Pepper Cheese. Burgers will also be available for purchase. Proceeds will directly benefit animals in our care.

LOW COST SPAY/NEUTER CLINIC

October 6-7th, 2021

We are excited to once again host **The Fix Is In** Low Cost-High Quality Spay/Neuter Clinic at our shelter. This mobile clinic provides spay and neuter procedures at affordable pricing to our community. **Community/Working cats** are eligible for **FREE** spay/neuters as well as an ear notch. **Visit their website register: www.thefixisin.org**

PINTS 4 PAWS

February 19th, 2022

We are excited to be bringing this event back in person this year! Join us at The Drafty Cellar for a matinee of music bingo. Stay for RAFFLES and LIVE MUSIC performed by The Ripple Effect. More details will be posted on our website and Facebook page soon.

THE FURRY FEUD

September 24, 2022

After much anticipation, The Furry Feud is finally happening! We are in the early stages of planning this event but hope you will save the date for a day of game show excitement! Watch for more details in the coming months.

WISHLIST

Walmart, Farm and Fleet Gift Cards

Purina One Kitten Chow

Purina One Cat Chow

Durable/Tough Chewer Dog Toys/Chews

Dog Training Treats

Paper Towel

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

VIRTUAL RUN-WALK-WAG RAISES OVER \$2,500



Alumni Halo relaxes in her Run-Walk-Wag shirt after her walk

Our Virtual Run-Walk-Wag was once again a huge success! We had participants from all over the area participate in walking for a cause. Thank you to everyone who walked in support of shelter animals as well as the following businesses that sponsored the event: Realty Executives Platinum, Kathy Polensky, Grinwald Ford, Richards Insurance, and Optimal Health Center. Be sure to check out the video on our Facebook page of pictures that our participants sent in!

SHARE YOUR STORY!

Have an adoption story you'd like to share? Email Jenny at giving@whsadopt.org to possibly be featured in an upcoming newsletter!

CHUCK



To anyone who follows our animals at the Watertown Humane Society, Chuck is a familiar face to you. Chuck was with us for far too long waiting for someone to give him a chance. We were so discouraged and disappointed that our efforts were not paying off for Chuck, and then an unsolicited Facebook message came along from "Jodie" that said, "I'd like to foster Chuck!" Within the first 24 hours the staff received updates like, "Chuck is such a sweetheart, he has so much Love to give!", "He is so cute when he sleeps" and then the final update, "It's inevitable, Chuck a.k.a Little Man, is not going anywhere, he is HOME!" We never intend on our fosters to "fail" and adopt their fosters, but sometimes it just takes that loving, caring, patient home to give some of our dogs a chance for happiness. We are over the moon excited for Chuck and we are eternally grateful to Jodie and her sons for showing Chuck the good life!

FINNEGAN FKA BANJO



"Two weeks ago today, we visited Watertown Humane Society and you helped in my ongoing search for a forever pup. Best idea ever! We came home with Banjo and the story began. I can't thank you enough for the encouragement and assistance in finding the right pup for our lives. Banjo has become "Finnegan" in our Irish home and fits in perfectly. He is the most well behaved, snuggly and smart dog I could imagine. He has learned how to sit, stay, leave-it, and go calmly into his kennel. He has learned to play...with us and with his dog toys...and, with his Labrador cousin that I was so worried about. I will definitely recommend Watertown Humane Society to everyone I know. We were so impressed with your site and staff. Thank you for helping us find a pup, when I was about to give up." -Jan M.

MEET YOUR NEW BEST FRIEND

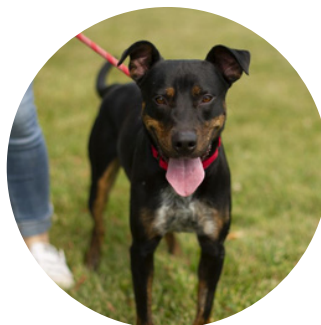
Looking for a new pet to join your family? Our shelter has many adoptable pets looking for their forever home. Check out all our adoptable pets on our website: www.whsadopt.org/adopt



General



Aubrey



Rokko



Avery



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