

WATERTOWN TAILS

The Watertown Humane Society newsletter.

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WHS

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NEW SPAY/NEUTER CLINIC OFFERS MUCH NEEDED SERVICES TO THE COMMUNITY

It's no surprise that the veterinary shortage has resulted in a vast amount of pet owners scrambling to find care for their pets. Both emergency and non-emergency offices continue to run with minimal staff as owners are faced with the added stress of finding the proper care for their pets when needed. Our shelter felt the pressure to bring these much needed services in-house as the local vets we utilized struggled to find space for our animals' spay/neuter appointments. When Dr. Brooke Groskopf agreed to join our team and help us open a spay/neuter clinic in our shelter, we were ecstatic to have her care for our animals, and we were even more excited about the service we could offer our community. We worked tirelessly over several months converting a storage room into a surgery suite and purchasing all the necessary equipment to open up the clinic. Our soft launch happened in November 2022, providing over 50 surgeries to shelter animals that had been waiting for spays and neuters.



On January 2, 2023, we officially opened our clinic to the public and to other local animal rescues faced with the same challenges. We are very proud to say our low-cost surgeries will provide pet owners the peace of mind that their animals are receiving timely, affordable, and quality care.

Those interested in booking an appointment should visit our website: www.whsadopt.org/clinic



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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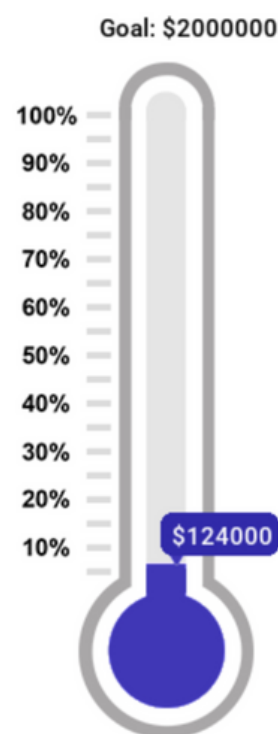
Julie Lohman, Adoption Team

MUCH NEEDED SHELTER RENOVATION PLANNING IS UNDER WAY

Recently we have been sharing our big dreams for a much needed shelter renovation. This renovation will provide a safer and more peaceful living environment for our shelter animals. In addition, it will also provide increased space for our overall day to day shelter operations. This project would be completed in two phases: first the office/clinic spaces and then the dog kennel space. With the success of our spay/neuter clinic, it has already become very apparent that we need to expand to better serve our community and accommodate staff needs. In addition to expanding the surgery space itself, we will be adding dedicated cat and dog recovery rooms, offices for our staff members, a dedicated food pantry space, retail merchandise space, a bigger more centralized visitation space, and a community meeting/conference room. The second phase will include a complete renovation of the dog kennels both inside and outside, including a climate friendly indoor dog play/training area! We hope to break ground on phase one in 2023, and we anticipate this project to cost roughly \$2 million dollars. We are asking our community to help us make this project possible. The additional space will better assist our community as we continue to grow and offer much needed services. We are so excited about this initiative and the many ways in which it will improve the lives of all animals that come into our care. We know that with your help we can make this happen. To donate to this cause, please visit our website: <https://www.whsadopt.org/building-renovation-initiative/>



Current kennel/outdoor spaces



KITTEN SEASON CONTINUES WELL INTO WINTER MONTHS

In 2022, the "kitten season" seemed unusually long as we faced a remarkable spike in kitten intake. Kitten season refers to the months when female cats typically give birth. This normally happens between April-October. This past year we were receiving kittens well into winter months, with a record intake of 336 kittens! Many times, tiny kittens arrive at the shelter with severe respiratory illnesses, fleas, or injuries requiring much needed extra care. Thankfully, our dedicated foster homes are quick to jump into action and help. Kittens like Mort, pictured to the right, often arrive severely in need of medical attention. After many rounds of antibiotics and eye washes, Mort slowly started to improve. It took nearly four months of care to get him ready for adoption. If you would like to help us prepare for this extremely busy (and expensive!) season, we are always looking for both in-kind and monetary donations. Below is a list of our most needed items. You may also donate online: www.whsadopt.org/donate



Mort on the day he arrived at the shelter.

meow

MOST NEEDED SUPPLIES FOR KITTEN SEASON



Mort after many rounds of antibiotics and special care



FOOD

- CANNED KITTEN PATE
- DRY KITTEN FOOD
- KMR FORMULA
- MIRACLE NIPPLES FOR BOTTLE FEEDERS



DONATIONS

\$250

COVERS COSTS FROM BIRTH TO ADOPTION FOR 1 CAT (VACCINES, FOOD, LITTER, SPAY/NEUTER)

\$100

PAYS FOR ANTIBIOTICS FOR RESPIRATORY ILLNESSES FOR ONE CAT

\$65

PAYS FOR ONE SPAY OR NEUTER

\$15

PAYS FOR ONE CASE OF WET KITTEN FOOD



CARE

- PURR PILLOW
- SNUGGLE SAFE HEATING PAD
- SCALE FOR WEIGHING
- KITTEN TOYS
- FOSTER HOMES

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

THE FURRY FEUD

August 19, 2023

Our first ever Furry Feud was a smashing success! We raised over \$15,000 for our shelter animals, and we look forward to bringing back this highly anticipated event again this summer. The event will feature 50/50 raffles, incredible silent auction items, and signature shelter-themed cocktails. You won't want to miss out on the fun! We are looking for corporate sponsors as well as TEAMS who are interested in participating. Visit our website for more information: www.whsadopt.org/furryfeud



2,000 PAWS FOR A CAUSE - SAVING ANIMALS, SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

It's no surprise that our shelter has BIG plans in the near future with a full shelter renovation and need your help to get there! We need 2,000 individuals or businesses to help raise \$1,000 each and we are at our goal! We can't wait to better serve our community and the animals we help once this goal is met. Every \$1,000 donor will be proudly displayed throughout our shelter on a paw print plaque.

To donate, visit: www.whsadopt.org/donate



SAVING ANIMALS *serving our community*

2,000 PAWS FOR A CAUSE
We need 2,000 individuals/businesses to donate \$1,000 to reach our \$2M goal!

HOW YOU CAN HELP

- ✓ Discuss with an employer
- ✓ Host a fundraiser
- ✓ Donate a portion of sales
- ✓ Ask a business owner



DONATE ONLINE:

WWW.WHSADOPT.ORG/DONATE

MAIL CHECKS TO:

418 WATER TOWER CT. WATERTOWN, WI 53094

To learn more, visit our website:
<https://www.whsadopt.org/building-renovation-initiative/>



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



Twix



Lucky



Dakota



Barney

2022...IN REVIEW!

It's no surprise that 2022 brought significant challenges to animal shelters all over the country.

With the number of animal surrenders and homeless pets on the rise, shelters like us found ourselves overpopulated and in dire need of additional resources. Despite these hardships, together as a community, we share the successes we have made during these tough times. We would like to thank our community, supporters, volunteers, and staff for helping us help as many animals as we did in 2022. We look forward to what we can do together in the year ahead!



A YEAR OF GIVING

In 2022, we were fortunate again to have the support of our community. Whether it was a job at the shelter that needed to get done, or raising funds for much needed items, our community never fails to help. We look forward to what we can all accomplish in the New Year ahead! Thank you to all who have made 2022 a success!

BATHROOM RENO



Maddie, Robin, and Ella in front of the cat mural they painted

You may remember the beautiful mural the Walker family graciously painted in our Community Cat Room last year. This year, they made our bathroom look spectacular! Thank you, ladies! We LOVE it!



NEW SHELTER VAN

Our shelter was the lucky recipient of a \$4,000 grant from the Green Bay Packers Give Back Foundation last fall. This grant subsidized a portion of the cost of a much needed transportation van for our shelter. We are so honored that we were chosen. Be on the lookout for our new set of wheels around town!



MIGHTY PAW COLLABORATION

Looking to purchase new pet products AND give back to our shelter? Mighty Paw is an incredible company that donates 20% of your purchase total back to our shelter! We use their products all the time and we can attest to the great quality! Just use the code WHS when you check out. This offer is good each time you purchase for one year from your first purchase (no code needed after the initial purchase) www.mightypaw.com



LOCAL PET STORE GIVES BACK

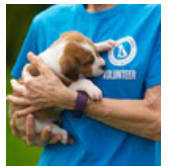
Last November, Animal World Adventures in Oconomowoc held a Pictures with Santa event that raised \$725! We would like to thank the store and everyone that came to this event! We encourage you to check out this pet store for all your animal needs!



Santa poses with a visitor at AWA in Oconomowoc

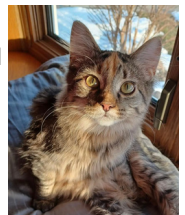
VOLUNTEERS DONATE OVER 2,000 HOURS

Our shelter might be little, but our volunteer team is mighty! In 2022, our 49 volunteers dedicated 2,838 hours of time cleaning the shelter, enriching the lives of our animals, or serving as ambassadors at community events and fundraisers. We really are the "Little shelter with the BIG heart", and we are truly grateful for all of our volunteers.



FIGHTING CHANCE FOR RASPBERRY

Little Raspberry blew up our Facebook page with not only her adorable little face but also her heartbreaking story. When she first arrived in foster care in mid-August, she was in terrible shape. She weighed only 10oz, her tail was dislocated, and she had a bot fly embedded in her neck. Her tail would have to be amputated, but she continued to heal in the loving care of her foster home. A few months later, Raspberry found herself in medical distress all over again when she was diagnosed with Toxoplasmosis, an infectious disease. Her foster mom raced her to the UW Madison vet clinic where she spent days in an oxygen chamber and received a "lung wash" to help her breath. She received diligent care, causing her vet bill to continue to rise. We held an online fundraiser, and raised over \$2,500. Her foster Mom, Nicole, along with another wonderful supporter, split the remaining \$2,000! Without the help of our community and these wonderful women, Raspberry would not have been able to have the fighting chance she did to survive.



FOSTERING ALLOWS SHELTER PETS A MUCH NEEDED BREAK

It's no surprise that the longer a dog is in a shelter environment, the more their temperament and personality diminish. Shelters are intended to provide a temporary home for a homeless pet, and it's never ideal to have animals there long term. Weekend sleepovers at some of our foster homes provide a relief from the stress of a kennel and provide the dog with new enrichment opportunities and experiences. Laurie, one of our volunteers, regularly takes Ariel home for playtime on weekends. Ariel LOVES this time out of the shelter. We are always looking to add more of these temporary fosters to our team. If interested, please visit: <https://www.whsadopt.org/help/foster/>



Ariel at her weekend playdate

Hady Electric continues to help us when we need them and we are so grateful for their continued support! We recently were in need of electrical outlets installed and not only did they help us quickly, they covered the bill for us! Thank you, Hady!



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!

Clifton



Over the past year Clifton has shown us his goofy side, and everyone who meets him instantly loves him. Thanks to training, and lots of treats, we've been able to teach him new commands, like stay and shake. He hated cars and getting his nails trimmed for the first month or two, but after working with him, he now loves cars and with a few more treats, tolerates getting his nails clipped. He may be from Texas but he is a snow dog for sure. He loves trotting around and eating as much snow as he can, or at least whatever he can sneak past us. Whenever someone walks in the door he brings them one of his many toys and wiggles his butt around. He loves attention and will tap you with his paw when he wants to be petted, not after 9pm though because that is his bedtime (which he decided himself). We're so happy he's apart of our family and can't wait to go on many adventures with him!

- Katey and Rob

CREAM PUFF



Fosters "Foster Fail" for one special kitty! Long time fosters, Robin Walker and daughters Ella and Maddie, have seen their fair share of kitties come and go. They have been fostering for WHS for over 6 years with over 140 kittens. But one special kitty, Cream Puff, pulled at their heart strings, leading them to adopt him themselves a few years ago. Cream Puff (aka Sir Puffins) had a rough start to life, needing constant medications and attention. All this special attention created a sweet spot in their heart leading to a very special love for this kitty, and it didn't hurt that he was adorable. In their words, "He was just different than the others. He was independent, quirky, and almost dog-like. He loved our dog from the start and added so much joy and laughter to our home". Technically, Cream Puff is the cat of the youngest daughter, Maddie, but everyone is just smitten by his antics. He truly is the king of the home. Cream Puff loves all the foster kittens that come into the house. He always lets them know he is the boss but is always ready to give them a bath to help them adjust to home life. They are thankful for this one special kitty in their lives!



Prince



"Prince and I first met on September 22, 2022. He came home with me that night and I knew right away that I had found my best friend. I've been working with a therapist for 3 years to help me cope with Complex Childhood PTSD and Anxiety. My therapist had mentioned she thought I would benefit greatly from an emotional support dog, in addition to the medicine I take. She explained she felt the companionship and joy that dogs bring would help me work through my anxiety and PTSD with a friend by my side. My anxiety is something I've suffered with for as long as I can remember, even as a small child. Prince has been the best emotional support dog I could ask for, but most importantly, he is family. Prince has made it much easier for me to get out of bed and not let fear and anxiety dictate my life. We go on walks every morning, something I love to do but used to be too afraid to do alone. When we pass other dogs or humans, Prince stands in front of me to protect me, and hugs and kisses me when they pass to make sure I'm safe. Prince has changed my life in ways I never imagined would be possible. I not only get to experience the joys of being a dog mom, but I get to experience the joys of life that I missed out on because of my PTSD and anxiety. I never knew I could love so fiercely and unconditionally the way I love my sweet Prince. I am forever thankful for Prince and WHS for connecting me with my FURever best friend. -Jordan



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