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LOVE IS...
Smiles and laughter from kids interacting with pets.
A family finding just the right pet to adopt.
Foster caregivers nurturing young animals.
A long-term resident FINALLY finding the perfect forever home.
A very special four-legged family member.
The gratitude from a rescued animal.
People coming together to help animals.

HAWS
Humane Animal Welfare Society
License #267280-DS
hawspets.org
701 Northview Road
PO Box 834
Waukesha, WI 53187-0834
262-542-8851

HAWS is Growing Our Humane Community! Learn how to become a part of it at hawspets.org.
We Love Warm and Fuzzy!

By Lynn Olenik, Executive Director

The February issue of Tattle Tails is always one of my favorites, because of its “warm and fuzzy” connection.

In years past, animal sheltering involved a large amount of heartache. Too many pets, not enough people; animals that came to us with little or no veterinary care from strictly outdoor, chained environments meant low adoption numbers with high intake. Animal advocates that wanted something better often caved because of overpopulation issues.

That is surely not the case anymore in Waukesha, and seldom in Wisconsin overall! The minimalistic approach to pets and pet care still does exist to some degree, but we see much less neglect and abuse now here in our area.

HAWS’ programs in place to treat the medically treatable (Annie’s Fund); help the untrained, fraticous surrenders and strays (Mod Squad); along with the reduction of overpopulation (SNIP clinic) and collaboration with community partners have allowed us to change lives, offer support and reach the first of the no-kill markers! A 90% or higher live placement rate, while still remaining open admission for our community’s homeless pets, once seemed impossible, but we are there, and have been for three years.

So, with that said, a WARM AND FUZZY thank you to our community! To the donors who support us, to the volunteers and staff on the front lines, and to the advocates and partners that help us move away from “status quo” into the amazing place we are, this warm and fuzzy Tattle Tails is dedicated to you.

Thank you for the ongoing support – and the push when we needed it. Thank you from all the warm and fuzzy friends you have taken into your homes and thank you for the faith you have shown and continue to show in HAWS and our important work.

Keep your “ears to the ground,” as HAWS rolls out our future plans to further embrace our community and guarantee a kind and secure home for animals into the future…. 🐾

**Staff Spotlight**

**Kendall Sypult**
Lead Adoption Counselor

What did you want to be when you grew up? A veterinarian or an ASPCA Officer.

Who are your pets? Dogs Spot and Peanut, and One-Eyed Willie (Peanut’s emotional support cat).

Your hobbies/interests outside of work: I am on the board of directors for Rescue Outreach. My fiancé and I are hiking Wisconsin’s Ice Age Trail, and I play volleyball.

Why do you work at HAWS? After high school I quickly found myself immersed in the corporate world. I was working as a Project Manager for an A/V company, and after a few years I felt that I was denying my true calling to work with animals. In my short time at HAWS I absolutely love knowing that my work is making a real difference in the community! 🐾

**Visiting HAWS**

**Visit Us**

**Receiving/Office Hours**
9-4 Monday-Friday
9-6 Saturday
12-4 Sunday

**Viewing/Adopting Hours**
1-6 Monday-Friday
11-4 Saturday
12-4 Sunday

**DIRECT LINE**

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Keep your “ears to the ground,” as HAWS rolls out our future plans to further embrace our community and guarantee a kind and secure home for animals into the future…. 🐾
Research shows that repeated exposure to a topic is the best way for a child to learn. Varying the examples used and the context allows a child to expand their knowledge, and practicing allows a child to improve their skills.

One of the best ways for the children in our community to learn about animal-related topics is through repeated exposure to them. While we welcome any opportunity to work with students in our community and provide programming in one-time visits, we are even more excited when we are able to impact students through programs that involve multiple visits.

One of our education offerings is to after-school program participants through the Waukesha Parks and Recreation Department. Every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, HAWS’ two Humane Educators each visit a different school, rotating through nine area schools. Each visit includes an animal; most of them are adoptable pets. The children learn about the animal’s behavior, the kind of care it needs, and what kind of pet it makes. While most kids are familiar with dogs, cats and hamsters as pets, many times this is their first interaction with such animals as ferrets, reptiles or even rabbits!

Because we meet with the same kids twice a month or more, they have the opportunity to get to know HAWS and learn about animal topics such as safe interactions, empathy, responsibility and compassion. Often we walk into the school to hear the kids excitedly yelling out that “HAWS is here!” and “What animal is it?!”. They love our visits and get to know our Humane Educators, as well as HAWS as an organization.

Some students only interact with our Education department through these after-school visits. But, many of these kids are familiar faces – from Scout tours, birthday parties, educational clubs, or they are Kids ‘N Critters campers. Every opportunity we have to nurture not only a love for animals but a deeper understanding of animal welfare, helps the children in our community mature into compassionate adults.

**HUMANE EDUCATION HIGHLIGHTS**

**We Love Repeats!**
*By Khris Erickson, Education Department Manager*

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**SNIP UPDATE**

**We Love our Veterinarians!**
*By Cassie Gugin, SNIP Manager*

HAWS has four veterinarians on our staff who are responsible for taking care of the more than 8,000 animals that come through our doors. From routine spays and neuters to emergency surgery on an iguana, this team always seems to shine!

Dr. Kieplikowski is our full time veterinarian who loves to spay and neuter, especially cats. She took specialized training at the ASPCA Spay/Neuter Alliance Veterinarian Training Program, which enabled her to increase her efficiency and proficiency. She has been known to spay or neuter 40 animals in one day!

Dr. Meyer is our herd health veterinarian, responsible for the medical treatment of the sick or injured animals in our care. She excels at helping the animals who need dental care, amputations, lump removal...and pretty much any other surgical needs that arise. It is not uncommon to see her walking out of the door with a cat or kitten in her hands that needs a little extra TLC.

Dr. Wolterman has been at HAWS the longest. He is our go-to veterinarian when it comes to the spaying and neutering of the rabbits, guinea pigs, rats, chinchillas and sugar gliders in our care. He enjoys teaching others about animal care, including our Kids ‘N Critters campers.

Dr. Tack originally started as a volunteer. She is always up for a challenge, and happily offers to spay/neuter all of our large breed dogs. In the summer, she likes helping with the baby birds at our partner, Wildlife in Need.

Together these four professionals ensure the humane care and treatment of all animals that arrive at HAWS!
It’s All About the Animals!

Share your HAWS Adoption Story – use the form on our website under “Adopt” or just email us at office@hawspets.org. Don’t forget to send us your Alumni pictures, too! For more great stories, check out #MondayMailbag on HAWS’ Facebook page!

RESCUE TAILS...

Like many staff members, Kennel Manager Kim K. often takes fosters home with her! One of her recent kitten fosters, Rudy, arrived at HAWS ice cold and only a few hours old! He had a rough start, but he was a fighter and wouldn’t give up. Initially named Rudolph for his bright red nose, later that turned into Rudy after the movie. Mr. Tuff, also found outside and alone a short time later, joined Rudy at Kim’s home. These two underdogs, er, under-CATS, were adopted into a loving home right before Christmas, joining another cat and two puggles!

Rescue Team member Jessie B. was called out to help a cat caught in a trap. Unfortunately, this was not a live trap but a leg/clamp trap. The chain of the trap was stuck on top of a wood pile, so Jessie climbed the pile and very slowly approached the frightened cat. She was unable to sedate the cat so she had to carefully get the chain unstuck, then hold on to the cat and get him safely in a carrier for transport back to the shelter. Once back at HAWS, caretakers were able to remove him from the trap to give him the necessary care.

A TRIBUTE TO HANNAH

We were all saddened to receive the news of Hannah’s passing. Hannah touched so many lives! From her humble beginnings as a dog-at-large for several years, evading capture while raising pups, to when she finally chose to “come in” and allow HAWS the chance to adopt her to a loving home, this amazing dog brought such great joy to many in the community. Hannah was truly an ambassador for both pit bulls and shelter dogs alike.

Hugs and much love to her family – and to all who have known the love of a special pet.

“Hannah’s life brought such great joy and purpose to my life and to many others. Our sweet Hannah: a breed ambassador, cherished family member, and loyal friend. You will always have a special place in our hearts.” — Tracey Van Beek

...AND ADOPTION STORIES

FUZZBERT

Fuzzbert was found as a young kitten on the side of the road on a crisp October day. He was hissing and growling at anyone who looked his way, and far too small to be neutered, so he was placed with a HAWS foster family. They fed him (with a bottle in the beginning), taught him how to play, socialized him with their dogs, cat and another foster kitten and loved him until he was available for adoption. Then, a little over a month after he first came to HAWS, he met his adoptive family. He went from being a kitten who was too wild to be handled safely to a beloved house cat that will live out his days in a loving home with a family to call his own! — Johanna S.

BUNNY

We visited HAWS a few times to “look” at dogs. As we looked we saw all different types of dogs; one in particular had the most adorable floppy ears. The kids fell in love! I let them adore her for a good 45 minutes before sitting on the floor with them. Then it happened: she crawled right into my lap. Little did we know...she wasn’t just a dog, or our dog. Shortly after, she became our family! There isn’t a thing we would do without her. She loves and protects us. She is by far the best fur baby that could have happened that day! — Tammi E.
ogs are known as man’s best friend for their social nature. However, not all dogs are willing to leap into our laps and receive pats. Dogs who cower in the back of their kennels and retreat from stretched hands are not the most likely to get adopted. Destiny awarded this exact behavior upon arriving at HAWS.

A pregnant Corgi mix transferred from an overcrowded shelter, Destiny, was quickly placed in a foster home where she could have her puppies. However, it became apparent that she would need to stay in foster care on her sociability in order to be adopted.

Destiny didn’t immediately show obvious fear signals. She often laid down across the room and even appeared calm at times. But, a closer look showed that one eye was always watching the people sitting around her. If someone crossed their legs or shifted in their seat, Destiny startled and bolted further away. She couldn’t be touched and wouldn’t even take treats. Things did not look promising. This tiny dog was living in a constant state of panic and needed serious, structured intervention.

HAWS’ Behavior department teamed up with Destiny’s foster caregivers to work with her one-on-one, to build trust and tolerance to touch. This was no easy feat. She was started on anxiety medication to help her get past her fears enough to take treats and accept training.

Week by week, Destiny showed increased interest in her foster family’s resident dog, walks outside and even short bouts of brushing. Destiny took field trips to HAWS to desensitize her to car rides and new locations.

This was a long, hard process for everyone involved – especially Destiny! But it all paid off when she met her perfect family. She now lives with another small dog, with whom she loves to play and cuddle. The biggest surprise? She actually enjoys petting from her new mom! We couldn’t be happier for Destiny and her new family! 🐾

MOBILE ADOPTION HIGHLIGHTS

We Love, Unconditionally!

By Geno Smith, Mobile Adoption Coordinator

Geno shares one reason why he loves being part of HAWS’ outreach efforts – a personal story of the impact of one animal’s love.

Ellie Mae was an 11-year-old Border Collie mix who joined us as a foster around Thanksgiving, 2013. She loved to ride in the car so much that if I didn’t let her ride up front right away, she would bypass our dog divider and sit next to me with an insulted look on her face.

Ellie Mae was never more than a few feet from looking at her she would flash me a big smile and a worshiping stare. (I only know this because my wife would tell me.) Slowly this wonderful girl was wrapping herself around my heart!

On Christmas morning Ellie Mae joined the celebration. One of the last gifts for me, from my wife, was a completed HAWS’ adoption contract with Ellie Mae’s name on it. I would be hers and she would be mine...this was the best Christmas gift I ever received!

A few months later, when my best four legged friend in the world, Buddy, passed away at age 15, Ellie Mae lifted me up and helped me to cope. We moved on together, me in the driver’s seat and Ellie Mae riding shotgun.

In February of 2015, Ellie Mae developed a cough and shortness of breath. One night I fell asleep on the couch and she curled up next to me to cuddle...the first time she got on the furniture in her 15 months with us. The next morning Ellie Mae was diagnosed with terminal lung cancer. She wouldn’t be coming back home.

Even though I was devastated by her loss, Ellie Mae taught me more about unconditional love than I had learned in a lifetime before. When I reflect on our time together I have come to understand this was her gift to me in 2013...a gift that will stay with me for the rest of my days.

Stop by in person at 701 Northview Road, Waukesha, or log onto our Pet Showcase at hawspets.org – since our shelter is open 7 days a week, and the Internet is always open, you can easily find your new family member on your schedule!

Contact an Adoptions Counselor at 262-542-8851 to get started.

Your dog will LOVE learning at HAWS! Log on to hawspets.org/pet-training-classes or call 262-542-8851, x114.

Partner with HAWS’ Mobile Adoption Center – just call 262-542-8851 or email mobile@hawspets.org to learn how!

OLIVE ROSE CHARLOTTE

Olive and I had lots of fun together and many good adventures. She was a fantastic cuddler and loved falling asleep at night under the covers next to me. I will miss her more than words can say. She was a happy little girl at my house, loved bossing her “brothers” around, totally ignored the cat and loved her occasional sleepovers at both of her dotting Aunts’ homes. I wish she would’ve lived longer than 15 years. Thank you to everyone at HAWS for allowing me to love and care for little Olive during the final chapter of her life. — Marilynn M.

LUKE

We adopted Luke the barn cat from HAWS in summer. He is an absolutely wonderful cat to have around. He is really friendly (I didn’t expect that!) and makes sure to say hi to us every time we come home. He loves my dogs, and he seems to really enjoy his freedom. Thank you for letting us take him in to our home (aka barn). We are taking good care of him and have even given him the name of “Lucky” the black cat. — Amy E.

We Love Fulfilling Our Destiny!

Emily Carl, Behavior Department Team

February 2020

Tattle Tails
VOLUNTEER NOTES
From Katie Sheldon, Volunteer Coordinator

If there is something that helps everyone feel the love at HAWS, it is our team of volunteers and foster caregivers. Every day, members of our community take time to help support our shelter in each department. From walking dogs to gardening; you name it, we have a volunteer to help!

HAWS ended 2019 with 380 active volunteers and 250 foster homes. Despite that astounding community support, we still have room to grow! There are a variety of openings in some of our most essential programs.

One of HAWS’ biggest needs is foster homes. Foster homes are essential to caring for mom dogs and their puppies! They are also a life-saving resource for dogs that are not thriving in the shelter environment. We have a full support team including veterinary and behavior staff to help your family and the dog from the day they arrive until the day they can return for adoption! What better way to spread love in 2020 than to open your home to a dog in need?

As for the dogs that reside at HAWS, our Canine Meal Enrichment volunteers are CERTAINLY loved by the dogs, because they feed them daily! Meal Enrichment is a volunteer-based program designed to help the dogs exercise their minds. Volunteers feed the dogs in creative ways, including toys and play, then observe to see what is liked best. One goal for 2020 is to have volunteer coverage that allows for all dogs to be fed via meal enrichment twice daily!

Information on all in-shelter and foster volunteer programs can be found at hawspets.org. We would love to see you on Team HAWS this year!

FRIENDS OF HAWS NOTES
Please contact us at FriendsofHAWS@gmail.com with any ideas or questions!

Join Our Circle of Friends

Interested in volunteering or utilizing your creative spirit? The Friends of HAWS want you! We serve as ambassadors for HAWS and raise money through different fundraisers. All funds raised support and assist in shelter improvements, the promotion and support of HAWS as well as advancing the mission of the Organization. Membership is FREE and any adult is encouraged to join. Meetings are the second Wednesday of every month, except December. The only commitment required is attending at least one meeting per quarter, and volunteering for at least two Friends-sponsored events. Join us!

Spay-ghetti Dinner
Saturday, February 22nd Noon-7pm

Join us once again for spaghetti with homemade meat or meatless sauce, salad, garlic bread and dessert. All proceeds benefit HAWS’ new education and housing initiatives. Carryout available; walk-ins welcome! Sponsored by the Cordon Family Foundation.

• Reservations made by February 15th – Adults: $15, ages 6-12: $10, 5 and under: Free!
• Reservations after February 15th/Walk-ins – Adults: $17, kids: $12.
• Reserve at hawspets.org or by calling 262-542-8851, x0. Payment is due at time of reservation.

Media Sale
Saturday, March 7th 10am-2pm

Presenting our annual sale of new and gently-used CDs, DVDs, books, video games, puzzles and more! Most items are less than $2 - stock up and support the HAWS cause. Please bring your donated items to HAWS by Saturday, February 29th. Please no magazines, VHS, cassette tapes or electronics.

Save the date for the 37th annual Romp ‘n Rally on Saturday, May 2nd, from 10am – 3pm at Sussex Village Park!

CONGRATULATIONS, VOLUNTEERS OF THE MONTH!

October: Patti Glass
November: Kathy Kennedy Strand

Learn how you can join in support of the “HAWS cause” as a volunteer, foster family or advocate at hawspets.org or by calling 262-542-8851 x120. Welcome to the HAWS family!

Thank You!
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The 2020 editions of the Cops & Paws and Tails & Ladders calendars were resounding success! More than $300 in Bordertowna area businesses supported the cause. These kids and their groups made awe-inspiring donations to HAWS through special projects, donations drive and more projects! In addition, we are happy to announce that more than 17 seniors have donated $300 in support of HAWS!

Thank you to these amazing businesses, groups and individuals for their incredible generosity! Be sure to follow HAWS’ Facebook page for pictures of our generous donors.

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Legacy of Love: Honor your loved one, person or pet, with a donation to HAWS. Donations can be made via mail, phone or online through hawspets.org using Paypal.

Simply go to the “Events & News” in our website and click on “Newsletters.”

Donate or join in support of HAWS: call 262-542-8853 or log on to hawspets.org!

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Be sure to follow HAWS’ Facebook page for pictures of our generous donors. Let us know you want your picture posted — we’ll even include an adoptable pet in your photo shoot!
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FEBRUARY

Saturday A.M. Recess
February 1st & 15th 10am-12pm
Central Bark Doggy Day Care, W227 N6193 Sussex Rd., Sussex
Enjoy indoor playtime with other dogs and support HAWS, too!
$5/dog; proceeds benefit HAWS; log on to hawspets.org for details.

Have-A-Heart Bake Sale
Saturday, February 8th 10am – 3pm
Hand-crafted holiday items, home-baked goodies, plus the latest in HAWS wear!
Hosted by the Friends of HAWS; details at hawspets.org and on page 6.

Spay-ghetti Dinner
Saturday, February 22nd
Noon-7pm
A full spaghetti dinner, including dessert, available all day!
Carryout and walk-ins welcome.
Hosted by the Friends of HAWS; details at hawspets.org and on page 6.

MARCH

Media Sale
Saturday, March 7th
11am-2pm
Purchase new and gently-used CDs, DVDs, books, video games, puzzles and more!
Hosted by the Friend of HAWS; details at hawspets.org and on page 6.

Saturday A.M. Recess
March 7th & 21st 10am-12pm
Central Bark Doggy Day Care, W227 N6193 Sussex Rd., Sussex
Enjoy indoor playtime with other dogs and support HAWS, too!
$5/dog; proceeds benefit HAWS; call 262-246-8100 for details.

SAVE THE DATE!

HAWS’ 37TH ANNUAL
Romp ‘N Rally
Saturday, May 2nd

VOLUNTEER AT HAWS
Support the HAWS’ cause – hands on! Many opportunities are available. Apply at hawspets.org or call 262-542-8851, x120.

Help Homeless Pets by Joining HAWS!
Log onto hawspets.org for information on how to become an Annual or Sustaining Member. Join online using PayPal!

Like “Humane Animal Welfare Society – HAWS of Waukesha” on Facebook and follow us on Twitter and Instagram at @HAWS_Waukesha!

DO WE HAVE YOUR EMAIL? Don’t miss out! Get on HAWS’ e-list at hawspets.org; sign up on our home page.