The Humane Animal Welfare Society (HAWS) of Waukesha County will open a 77-acre facility dedicated to pet training programs, youth education and an animal and human sanctuary. The HAWS Schallock Center for Animals, named for a generous donation from Mike and Jane Schallock, is expected to open in April.

The Schallocks were among the founding members of HAWS and entrusted their 77-acre property to the nonprofit organization to further the mission of educating the public in respect and care for animals. The new center in Delafield features several buildings including two barns, walking and hiking trails, several ponds and a large arena.

"The HAWS Schallock Center for Animals is going to offer pet training programs, youth education, respite and sanctuary for pets and people in an innovative natural setting," HAWS director of organizational development Maggie Tate-Techtmann said.

This new property will not be another animal shelter. HAWS will continue to operate its main location at 701 Northview Road in Waukesha. The Schallock Center for Animals will focus on additional programming and animal welfare.
HAWS is a full-service, open admissions, no-kill shelter. Each year, the nonprofit organization supports over 8,000 animals and 35,000 people. The organization has an over 90% return-to-community rate. Because of this success in getting animals adopted, the organization also has expansive programming focused on animal behavior and education.

"Really our mission is to provide sanctuary for animals in need, but also we have a very strong commitment to making sure that pets and people stay together and really working to support that human-pet bond and relationship," Tate-Techtmann said.

Tate-Techtmann said HAWS does not have a specific number in mind for the cost of the project, but the organization is launching a community campaign to assist with the expansion. This includes the opportunity for both individual contributions and corporate partners.

HAWS is also teaming up with Woodlands School, a charter school with two locations in Milwaukee, to engage in some virtual and in-person educational opportunities. The curriculum was written to state standards to ensure comfortability in teachers administering the material or bringing their students to the center to engage.

Tate-Techtmann expects the new center will open in April. The organization has already launched its summer camp registration, which this year will be at both its Waukesha location and the new Delafield location.

Currently, HAWS has a 60-person full- and part-time staff. Tate-Techtmann expects that with the new center, the organization will add more jobs in administration, counselors, caretakers and other needs. HAWS will also require an even stronger volunteer force at the Delafield location.

"We are really excited to be delivering on Mike and Jane’s vision not only to impact the community in the anticipated ways in offering more education for youth and offering more training and enrichment opportunities and sanctuary and respite, but also really at a time when employment is so uncertain, being able to positively add to the workforce," Tate-Techtmann said.
HAWS plans for opening of Schallock Center for Animals in Delafield this spring - Milwaukee Business Journal

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