

August 2022

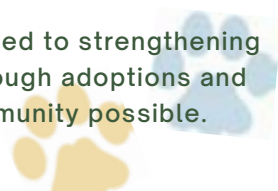
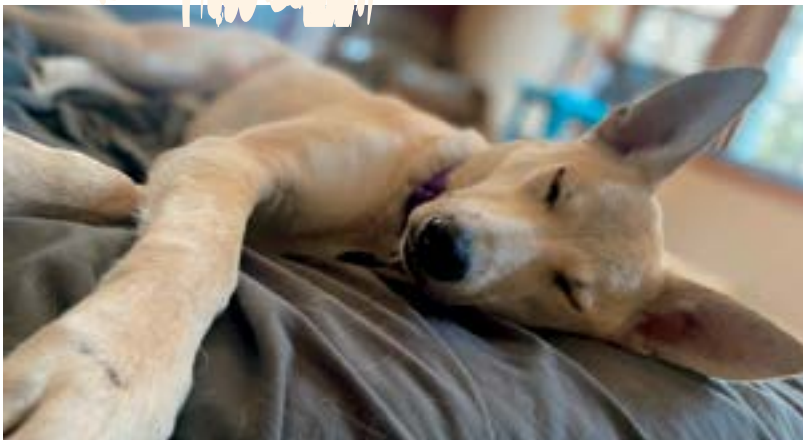
Tattle Tails

Humane Animal Welfare Society (HAWS) of Waukesha County, Inc.



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The *Tattle Tails* is a publication of the Humane Animal Welfare Society, with issues in February, April and August, and a special Impact Report in November. Please direct inquiries and comments, including your change of address, to marketing@hawspets.org.

DIRECT LINE

By Lynn Olenik,
Executive Director

Cats Show Us the Way

In 2005, HAWS launched a special program called Project Guardian, designed to tackle the issue of cat overpopulation in Waukesha County through no-charge spay/neuter services for outdoor cats. This program required a commitment from many departments – SNIP, Animal Care, Animal Rescue, fosters, volunteers and marketing. It was a total shelter effort, and the results were fantastic!

Success wasn't reached just through in-house cooperation: Over the years we have had a variety of funders keep this program viable. Donors, estate gifts, private and public foundations have all helped to keep Project Guardian at no cost to our community. In the past three years we have received over \$65,000 toward this cause! Thanks to a grant from the ASPCA, we've been able to add a program coordinator in recent years, putting a person out in the public to educate on the importance of spay/neuter and give hands-on assistance. Athletes for Animals and Petco Foundation have contributed towards covering the surgical costs for our trap/neuter/release felines.

HAWS' brand-new K9 Task Force is also a multi-faceted solution that encompasses all departments – and requires the help of our entire community. On the national level animals, particularly dogs, are entering shelters at an alarming rate. Post-pandemic adoption numbers are flattening and, for some species, dropping. In particular, dogs are staying at shelters much longer before finding their new homes. Those dogs acquired in the past two years, while people hunkered down at home, have unfortunately gotten less exposure to their neighborhoods and to visitors. Behavior issues abound, and the dogs in our care need our support now more than ever.

As a team, we have pulled out all the stops at HAWS. We are recruiting additional volunteers, have expanded our network of foster homes, added field trips out of the shelter for our dogs – all to support the mental and physical well-being of the animals in our care.

Thank you all who are helping and getting involved! As with Project Guardian, we are in this for the long haul, until we tip the scales and get all of our animals into long term homes. We all know having your own family is the best! 🐾

In this issue...
you will learn how our various departments, volunteers, outside organizations and individuals are joining together for the animals. The gift from the long-term volunteer who left over \$200,000 in her estate plan to support the efforts of HAWS spay/neuter programs, the Brownie troop creating tug toys and comfy blankets...we can all impact the well-being of shelter pets and give them wonderful lives!



Near the end of viewing hours one Sunday, Deb's new dad came in and they immediately bonded. Some of her biggest dog-walker fans happened to be around to see her off!



Yukon now lives in Michigan with his new dad and new Malamute brother, avid hikers who will take Yukon on many adventures. Yukon was sent to his new home with his favorite toy and a smile on his face.



New kennel enrichment baskets hold each resident dog's favorite toys and chews!

Did You Know?

HAWS adopters receive FOUR FREE behavior consults for the life of your adopted pet! These consults can take place at HAWS, or even in your home for an additional trip/mileage fee. Additional consults are available, and will be billed at \$30 an hour. Already used consults in the past for your pet? Adopters will still get 4 free consults from 7/1/22 to the end of that pet's life.
[Log on to hawspets.org/training-behavior](https://hawspets.org/training-behavior) for details.

BEHAVIOR DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

hawspets.org/training-behavior

Leading the Pack

HAWS' Behavior Department was created in 2009, with the mission of assisting pets both inside and outside of our shelter's walls. Training classes and one-on-one consultations are available to anyone in our community, but our staff and volunteers are dedicated to working with the animals living at HAWS as well. Our Mod Squad was created in 2010 as the primary group tasked to use behavior modification as a means to increase adoptability and decrease euthanasia.

Over a decade later, the work of the Behavior Department team is more visible – and crucial – than ever! Enrichment baskets filled with peanut butter jars, long lasting chews and special toys hang outside of each kennel. Calming music fills the adoption wards. Collaboration with other departments increases the reach, to help them socialize, learn life skills and meet more potential homes.

Deb arrived at HAWS as a stray in August of 2021 and was quickly adopted. Sadly, that adoption didn't work out and she was returned in November. The resulting teamwork led to Deb becoming a staff and volunteer favorite! She enjoyed birthday parties led by the Education team, where she received tons of love. (Deb is known to nudge you a little bit if she doesn't think you've given her quite enough attention.) She excelled at our Monday Manners training class with volunteers. Full of love, her happy tail wasn't afraid to let the world know. Those additional five months at HAWS were well-spent and Deb found her new home!

Yukon's story is similar – he was surrendered, adopted and returned within a two-month span. To ensure a better match the second time around, he became active with the Mod Squad and they were able to learn so much more about his needs. Success! Staff and volunteers who worked closely with him were sad to see Yukon leave, but they are so happy for his future as a hiking buddy for his new dad and dog sibling.

The Behavior team leads the way because of their specialized training, but our new K9 Task Force means additional opportunities for volunteers – individuals, families and groups – and more happy tails and happy endings!

We are so excited to see the continued growth of our Behavior Department's important work with the new K9 Task Force shelter-wide initiative. 🐾



HAWS' K9 Task Force is responsible for creating and implementing individual management plans for the dogs at HAWS, to support shelter residents through tailored enrichment, environmental modification, medical intervention and more as needed. Overall goals include improved quality of life, increasing desired behaviors and easing the transition from shelter life to adoptive home life.

K9 TASK FORCE

By Jen Smieja, Communication Specialist

At its heart, behind the official language, the role of HAWS' new K9 Task Force is very simple: Give shelter dogs the best life possible while they wait for their forever homes. Give quality to the quantity, no matter how long – or short – a time they are in our care.

As an open admission and no-kill shelter, HAWS' mission is to support all pets for however long they need. Facility-wide interventions can strategically improve the lives of the pets in HAWS' care, specifically those residents who have a longer stay at the shelter.

It isn't a new concept, but it is innovative, bringing together the pieces we already have available and in place at HAWS, into one seamless unit.

A unit with many, many working pieces!

Our **Behavior team** does the most interactive work with each animal, providing basic training – both in organized classes and one-on-one. Outings to pet-friendly places in the community, and playdates at our Schallock Center for Animals in Delafield, reinforce what the dogs have learned.

Getting to know a dog as an individual can lead to seemingly little things like knowing when a dog really likes a specific toy. That toy is then brought along to the adoption viewing room as a comfort, or is given to them during down time to relieve stress. It stays with the same dog until they are adopted and is sent home with them. Ultimately a squeaky toy can be the key to setting them up for success!

As with every area of HAWS, our volunteers are an absolutely crucial component. On a daily basis, **Dog Walkers and the Mod Squad** are the eyes and ears, logging details of interactions and sharing observations that give incredible insight into the needs and habits of each animal while helping take the edge off.

Working with the Mod Squad behavior volunteers, Ladybug grew her basic manners and life skills, learning through in-shelter enrichment and outside interactions.

The newly-formed **Enrichment Volunteer team** specializes in mental stimulation for the dogs – helping them with puzzle toys, treat hide and seek games, or even just sitting quietly for some TLC.

Volunteer foster homes can be life-changing for a dog, cat or small animal, giving them time outside of the sometimes-stressful environment of the shelter. In the past, foster homes were used largely to assist in the treatment of medical issues, when a pet required more attention during recovery from surgery or illness. We have embraced the concept of foster-to-adopt, giving all the members of the potential new family time to get to know each other that much better.

The value of the behavior foster is that rather than monitoring vital signs, behavior fosters work with and monitor that dog's progress on everything from reactivity to anxiety. Rest assured, the foster home has a safety net in the form of written instructions, as needed check-ins and even a foster hotline available at any time.

A medical condition can be the reason both for a pet arriving at HAWS and staying a bit longer. **HAWS' veterinary clinic team** is able to perform basic and life-saving procedures, in turn reducing the amount of travel to another location and making follow-up care that much easier.

The **community-at-large** plays an invaluable role in support of the K9 Task Force!

Our social media posts requesting supplies and donations not only help inside the shelter but also assist the short- and long-term foster homes working with us. When you share a post, that friend of a friend you happen to reach may be looking to adopt...and you are the one who made it happen!

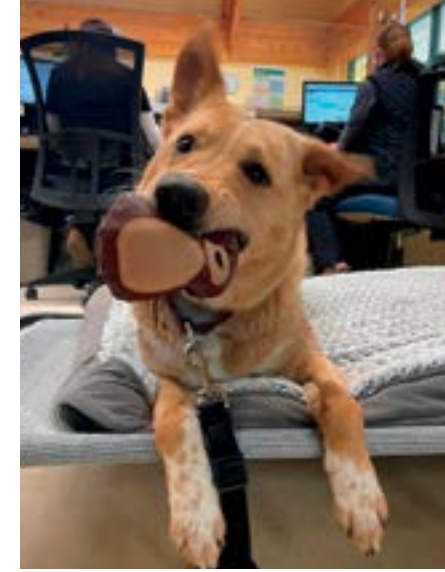
When a business welcomes HAWS' Mobile Adoption team, they give shelter pets the social outlets they need while helping spread the word. When a corporate group reaches out for a project, HAWS has plenty for them to assist with.

Where to we go from here?

We are grateful to our start-up sponsors Best Friends Animal Society and the St. Croix Valley Foundation, who have put their faith and financial support into our long term canine residents.

Our next steps include improving the quality of life and decreasing stress for all shelter pets, focusing on cats with help from the Petfinder Foundation Cat Enrichment Grant. We'll be growing our Pet Comfort therapy sessions through a Walmart Foundation Local Community Grant. And the Pedigree Foundation has provided funding to defray medical costs on dogs who are otherwise overlooked on transports from high-euthanasia areas due to age and/or medical issues.

Ladybug is just one of the thousands of animals that look to HAWS for a new beginning. With the K9 Task Force and community support, many, many success stories are just ready and waiting to be written. 🐾



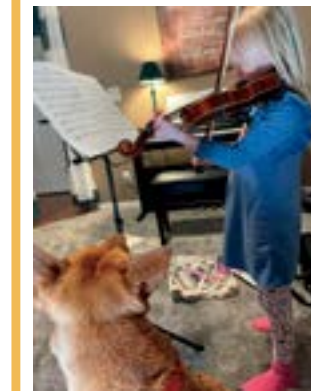
“Ladybug loves stuffed toys - just about any toy she can put in her mouth. She knows leave it and drop it, and has great leash skills!”



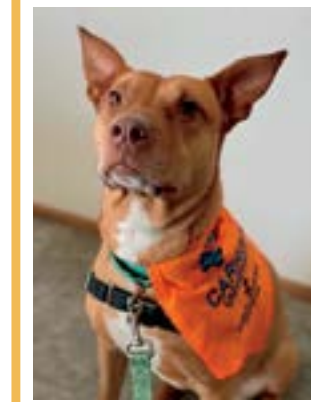
SUCCESS: Ladybug and her new dad, ready for many adventures together.



Ivy Jean Grows & Thrives!



The fostering of HAWS adoptable dogs by Carroll University animal behavior students has underscored just how much a dog's life can change. Dr. Lee, a member of the animal behavior faculty at CU and a HAWS volunteer, saw the potential in Ivy Jean, a long-term resident at HAWS. Ivy had been at HAWS almost a full year when Dr. Lee recommended her for the program. The nurturing relationship between Ivy and her foster mom/CU student Katelyn gave this amazing dog the chance for a very bright future.



Updates from her adoptive family are reason to celebrate: “Ivy is very loved and doing great! She has claimed my daughter as her favorite. She sleeps on her bed and shares her blanket. Ivy has been such a blessing to our family – all the pieces just fit together. She is such a sweetheart, and we all love her. When we adopted Ivy Jean, our family was complete.”



RESCUE TAILS & ADOPTION STORIES

Find a new family member at hawspets.org/adopt!

For the Birds

In spring, Field Services Manager Andres was called to assist with a hawk in Dousman. Unfortunately, due to the prevalence of bird flu, the animal had to be euthanized. A strain of highly pathogenic avian influenza has been causing illness and death in some wild birds and domestic poultry. To protect the health of wild birds, licensed rehabilitators are not accepting birds into care. For information, please contact the DNR at 888-936-7463 or dnr.wisconsin.gov.

Call our team for assistance with domestic and wildlife concerns! We are available 24/7/365 at 262-542-8851. 🌿

share

your HAWS adoption story:

Email your update & pictures to marketing@hawspets.org!

See more great stories in #MondayMailbag on Facebook!



ELLA

We adopted Ella (formerly Loretta) last fall and she is such a wonderful pet. She free-rooms our sunroom and is super affectionate and great with our other pets. To anyone looking at getting a bunny, don't let size deter you! Big bunnies can be very friendly and oftentimes naturally use a bunny litter box!

We are so happy with her!
- Lisa Marie W.

WINSTON

My husband and I adopted Winston the cat last summer. He's such a delight and I'm so glad we found him. Not long ago my husband passed away, and Winston and his sister cat have been a godsend. Both are sad at the loss of their dad, but they keep me going. Please keep up the good work: These are truly angels without wings.

- Darla H.

MONTY

An update on Monty (formerly Dandin) the guinea pig! He loves playtime on the kitchen floor, and running around while under a box. He cheerfully "wheeks" every morning and night when I feed him. Thanks again!

- Sam S.

RICKY

Ricky (Nugget) is doing really well - thank you for all you did repairing his herniated belly button and eye! His favorite things are to eat, play catch, steal pencils and aggressively love his sister...who is still adjusting to all the love. He has become such a handsome little man!

- Michelle R.

CHLOE & GRACIE

I am SO glad that we decided to check HAWS for our next guinea pigs! Sisters Cleopatra and Gypsy (now Chloe and Gracie) are as sweet as they can be, and it is clear that they had been loved before they came to live here. They love the snuggle pouches that HAWS' caretaker Molly made and sent home with them (thank you, Molly, for that extra blessing)!

- Jean S.

LARRY

Larry loves blankets, his water fountain and people's laps. He is all about being where I am at, and follows me everywhere asking questions or telling me about his day (we have full blown conversations all the time). I am so grateful he has come into our lives and is a part of our family. Thank you to everyone there who took such good care of him. Keep doing the amazing job with all the animals. You can tell the love and patience you take with each one of them.

- Stephanie B.

ZARA

I adopted "Jess" back in September of 2020. Since then she has come a long way and been on lots of adventures. She loves sniffing, chasing squirrels, snuggling with her blanket, chewing on bones, running around with her bestie Clover, daily walks in the neighborhood and playing tug! Her new name is Zara and she is one loved pup!

- Christina M.



Where it All Starts

We know of no better way to grow a humane community than from within our own walls. Literally - time and again we've seen youth who participated in one of our education programs or partnerships here at the shelter become members of our staff!

It is no strange thing to see one of the kids "graduate" from camper to counselor. Our kennel caregiver ranks are full of students who are past summer campers - some of whom are keeping their skills sharp even while completing college! Many of the adults on our staff were even part of a HAWS program prior to getting hired onto one of our teams.

One such grassroots employee is Olivia Daane. She is a former member of several of HAWS' youth education clubs, was the 2020 winner of our Youth Community Kindness Award...and is now a staff member!

"From Tuesday Troops to Critter Club to volunteering to camp counselor, HAWS has helped to further my passion for animals and educating others about them," Olivia shares. "I used to be the camper whose face would light up when interacting with a new animal, and now as a camp counselor I daily get to watch the same light shine through my campers' faces."



What do you want to be when you grow up? If you're in between the ages of 6 and 18, HAWS has a program that could help you answer that! As Olivia says: "I look forward to the many more opportunities that are available through HAWS to further my education on Animal Welfare."

We hope that many kids like Olivia start searching for ideas here at HAWS. We'll see you soon! 🐾



Kids Love Meatloaf!

A bearded dragon was surrendered in November and immediately taken in to foster care by one of HAWS' staff members (who just happens to be a small animal guru). Because he was such a wonderful and unique beardie, the Education team decided after a short time that he should become a permanent member of their staff!

Meatloaf is very friendly, and loves to chill on a lap or do some light exploring. He enjoys being hand-fed and is full of personality. His special medical needs have led to some great lessons for education program participants! He has a great appetite, but due to his teeth and his mild neurological issues, he can't chew very well and he can't catch fast prey - all his veggies are cut into easy-to-eat pieces, and any bugs he eats are either fed directly to him or in a bowl so they can't run away from him.

Kids love to spend time getting to know this unusual ambassador from the animal world, and we love introducing them to Meatloaf! 🐾

Little Critters Are Where It's At

Thanks to a grant from Oxbow, we were able to build "Little Critterville" to help educate our campers on even more small animals!

Meet the NEIGH-bors

It is an absolute pleasure to be caretakers of the "HAWS herd" - the residents of our Schallock Center for Animals in Delafield!

Goats Mike and Ike are doing well, leisurely mowing their portion of the Center grass. This summer they have been sharing space with a special new neeeeighbor, a pregnant mini-mare named Candy Corn (the foal had not yet arrived at press time). While Candy isn't rideable due to her size, she is a feature of our education programs and on-site birthday parties.

Horses Caesar and Levi are temporary residents that have been helping with summer camp, teaching kids about horses and how to ride. They have been a perfect fit and we have enjoyed their stay immensely. HAWS continues to foster Big Sur, the 19-year-old Dutch Warmblood from Amazing Grace Equine Sanctuary (AGES). This gentle giant has been showing kids how to care for horses that need extra support due to certain conditions.

Another resident, Cal, is owned and loved by HAWS' Equine & Animal Care Specialist, Makayla. He is an off-the-track Thoroughbred and the senior citizen of the group at approximately 32-years-old! Even though he recently needed dental surgery, Cal still loves to run around from time to time as well as enjoy snuggles and a good grooming session. He is our go-to horse when someone is nervous, because of his quiet demeanor.

The permanent residents of the Schallock Center and owned by HAWS are Ranger, Skittles and Monet. Ranger arrived with Cal in June, 2021 - the first two horses to return the SCA to a working horse farm. An American Quarter Horse, Ranger is quite the class clown and toddler of the group at 4-years-old.

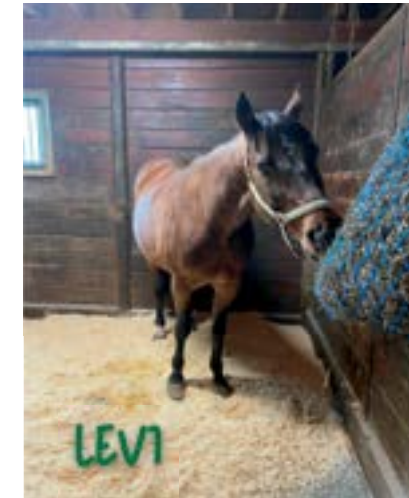
Skittles is an 18-year-old Chincoteague pony, from the island of Chincoteague off the coast of Maryland and Virginia! He swam across the channel during the Pony Penning Days that are held each year to keep the wild herd at a healthy level. He is far from a wild, crazy pony...although he and Ranger can be seen goofing around in the pasture together.

This spring we adopted Monet, the 19-year-old Standardbred who came to HAWS from AGES along with Big Sur. We believe he'll make a great riding horse in the future; he is easy-going and enjoys visiting with guests from time to time.

In the past year we have added a few more pastures for the horses to graze, as well as another round pen to ride in and a third lean-to for shelter while the horses are outside. A grant from Cargill/Nutrena has supplied stall matting and more tack and horse-related equipment - much needed since we have many more horses this year! We are all looking forward to late summer into fall, when we again offer our Equine Explorers club as well as some new and exciting horse-related programs. Stay tuned, and learn more at hawspets.org! 🐾



Teach, Train & Live Humane.



HAWS has created a fund dedicated to the care of the herd at our Schallock Center for Animals: Ranger's Fund.

Donations received for this fund will cover basic care, tack, vet bills and supplies. Sponsorships are also available for the pastures and new shelters, grading of the paddock and a possible outdoor riding arena. For more information, please contact us at 262-542-8851, or donate at hawspets.org.

CORNER

GET SET FOR THESE GREAT FALL ACTIVITIES!

HAWS' Fall programs for kids and their families are now in the works - including both new and returning favorites! We are busy planning encounters at both the Waukesha shelter and our Schallock Center for Animals in Delafield. Check them out at hawspets.org/humane-education, and watch our Facebook feed for updates as well!

- **KHAWs** - for grades 1-5; build confidence & responsibility through hands-on animal activities at HAWS.
- **Critter Club & Tuesday Troops** - for grades 6-9; volunteer at HAWS & learn more about animal welfare.
- **Early Education** - for parents & their 3-4 year old; explore nature through standards-based, interactive sessions.
- **Equine Explorers** - for grades 6-9; a unique opportunity to learn about, care for & interact with horses at the SCA.
- **Hannah's Haven** - ages 6-10; build literacy skills & confidence reading to a HAWS adoptable or alumni pet.
- **Family Programs** - all-ages sessions; explore nature with "Tales by the Fire" & "Family Fun at the Farm."
- **School Field Trips** - for grades 2-12; STEM-based, curriculum-driven interactive encounters at the SCA.

New Fall Reading Program at the SCA!

HAWS is launching a new 8-week long program based on reading the book *Misty of Chincoteague*, beginning in September! Kids will spend time reading to our pony, Skittles, discussing the book and interacting with and learning about HAWS' herd.

GET INVOLVED

hawspets.org/volunteer

Helping Hands & Paws

HAWS volunteers play a crucial role in the success of the K9 Task Force, supporting the day-to-day workings of the initiative as well as providing special project assistance.

Volunteers that have gone through the Dog Walker 2.0 and/or Mod Squad training are doing the actual hands-on Task Force work with the resident dogs, both at the shelter and through field trips to the Schallock Center and other pet-friendly public places. These interactions don't just give the dogs exposure to a variety of people and socialization, but also provide for additional sets of eyes to observe and document behaviors for the Behavior Department staff.

Volunteer Coordinator Devon is looking to grow the ranks of the Mod Squad in particular. She notes, "Because of their specialized training and skills, this group will eventually be training other volunteers, and helping both humans and dogs!"

A new team of Enrichment Volunteers is also interacting with shelter residents; their specialty is mental stimulation rather than physical. The adage "a tired dog is a good dog" doesn't just mean a nice walk or a play date, but also staving off boredom with puzzle toys and stuffed, frozen Kongs. Devon notes that at this point this group consists primarily of dog walkers looking to add to their usual duties. But, anyone can join this group, and volunteers are welcome to be part of the enrichment team only if they so choose.

HAWS' in-house volunteers are not the only ones making an impact within the new Task Force! Groups of corporate volunteers have been doing projects on- and off-site, making snuffle mats and tug toys, and filling and freezing those aforementioned Kong toys by the hundreds. The Task Force initiative means animals are spending time both in the Waukesha shelter facility and out at the Delafield Schallock Center; we've found the need for supplies has increased - so collection drives to restock our treats and toys are more important than ever. 🐾

The Friends of HAWS - Coming Up!

hawspets.org/friends



TAILgate Outing: Sunday, August 21st, 9am-4pm

Join us at Petlicious Bakery & Pet Spa, 2217 Silvermail Rd., Pewaukee, for a day of food, fun and fundraising, as part of the annual Pier Pups Dock Diving event.

Clothing & Textile Drive: Saturday, August 27th, 10am-3pm

Reduce your carbon paw print! Bring in your unwanted clothing/accessories/linens. Bins will be available at HAWS from 8/22-8/28. In partnership with St. Vincent de Paul.

Save these dates! Holiday Pet Photos - November 5th & 6th
Holiday Bazaar & Bake Sale - November 19th

We'd LOVE more Friends!

The Friends of HAWS is a group of adults who put the FUN in fundraising. Membership is free, and benefits include camaraderie, various volunteer opportunities and a variety of fundraising events to make for a very rewarding experience. Please join us!

Meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month at HAWS. Please contact us at friends@hawspets.org with any questions!

Become a Volunteer at HAWS:
We have a wide range of opportunities! Start by visiting our information page at hawspets.org/volunteer or call 262-542-8851, x120.



It's definitely not just about the dogs! Kohl's volunteers helped Community Cat Coordinator Kendall make feeding stations for feral cats. These stations are a great way to keep food and water safe from inclement weather - and pests - and allow caregivers a clear view of the cats that come to visit!



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

hawspets.org/community-outreach



Our annual fall fundraiser, Happy Tails, is set for Friday, October 21st!

Guest registration opens in early September at hawspets.org/happytails.

THANK YOU TO OUR EVENT SPONSORS!

We would be thrilled to welcome you and your company as well. Opportunities and benefits can be found at hawspets.org/happytails or by contacting Maggie Tate-Techtmann at maggie@hawspets.org.

Presenting Sponsor

CHARLEE BEAR®
NATURAL TREATS FOR DOGS

Sponsors as of July 8th.



Susan & Eric Blohm



Patty & John Mueller
Doug & Kerry Schnier



DATED MATERIAL - PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY

DO WE HAVE YOUR EMAIL? Don't miss out! Get on HAWS' email lists at hawspets.org.

CALENDAR

Events are held at HAWS in Waukesha unless otherwise noted. Please check hawspets.org/events regularly for updates and all Mobile Adoption visits.

August

TAllgate Outing
August 21st
9am-4pm



**Clothing &
Textile Drive**
August 27th
10am-3pm
Details on page 10.

October



Friday, October 21st
Marriott West

**Our annual
fundraising gala!**

**Guest registration opens in
early September at
hawspets.org/happytails.**

Every Month at HAWS

Friends Meetings

Aug. 10, Sept. 14, Oct. 12, Nov. 9 6:30pm
All adults welcome! See page 10 for Friends' info.

Cat Pedicures

Aug. 13, Sept. 10, Oct. 8, Nov. 12 9:30-10:30am
Aug. 23, Sept. 27, Oct. 25, Nov. 22 5:30-6:30pm
Please visit hawspets.org/events prior to your visit for procedures & registration.

Pedicures for Rabbits & Guinea Pigs

Aug. 20, Sept. 17, Oct. 15, Nov. 19 9:30-10:30am
Pedicures are limited to the first 20 animals. No pre-registration or call-ahead available at this time.

Save the Dates!

HAWS Annual Membership Meeting: September 26th
Holiday Pet Photos: November 5th & 6th
Holiday Bazaar & Bake Sale: November 19th



**Two Great
Ways to
Recycle!**

Follow us for more news, resources and fun:



When you're done reading, please either pass along this issue to a friend, or safely recycle in your community.