



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HAWS & CARROLL UNIVERSITY CELEBRATE 8TH “GRADUATION” DAY

Waukesha animal center & University partner for animal behavior & adoption program

WAUKESHA – April 20, 2026. Dogs from [HAWS](#), the Humane Animal Welfare Society of Waukesha County, that have been living with [Carroll University](#) animal behavior students this semester will celebrate “Graduation Day” and be placed in their adoptive homes on Wednesday, April 22nd, from 10am-12pm, at HAWS’ shelter at 701 Northview Road in Waukesha.

For the eighth semester, Carroll University and HAWS have partnered to pair shelter dogs with students in the Advanced Skills in Canine Management and Training (ANB444) course. The dogs live with the students for the entire semester, allowing adoptable dogs a respite from the shelter setting, while also giving students the chance to develop real world, hands-on behavior skills. Students share progress reports via posts on the program’s [Facebook page](#) throughout the semester. A unique feature to this semester was the students teaming up to share dogs, with two students assigned to each shelter dog.

Since its inception in 2020, more than three dozen dogs have participated in the program. A number of students have permanently adopted their foster dogs, while several families assisting with the program have also adopted from this group.

Adoptions times for this semester’s dogs--Po, Harley, Cleo, Tobi, Levi and Wispy--are as follows. Each adoption takes approximately 20 minutes.

- 10:00am - Cleo, Wispy
- 11:00am - Po
- 11:40am - Harley, Tobi

HAWS and Carroll are grateful to Wisconsin-based pet food company Hound & Gatos and Charlee Bear for sponsoring training treats for the dogs in the program.

MEDIA NOTE: Members of the media are welcome at HAWS for the adoptions/graduations, and to interview representatives from HAWS and Carroll as well as the students and adopters. *Please RSVP to Jennifer Smieja at HAWS jennifer@hawspets.org, or on April 22nd please reach out to 262-408-7083.*

Carroll University was incorporated in 1846, making it Wisconsin’s first four-year institution of higher learning. Situated in Waukesha, the independent, co-educational comprehensive university is grounded in the liberal arts tradition, and offers more than 95 areas of study, multiple graduate programs and a clinical doctorate in physical therapy. For more information, visit www.carrollu.edu, and follow us on Instagram and Facebook.

A non-profit organization established in 1965, the Humane Animal Welfare Society assists over 12,000 animals and welcomes more than 35,000 human visitors each year. HAWS is an open admission, no-kill shelter dedicated to strengthening the relationship between animals and humans through adoptions and education, making a more compassionate community possible.

HAWS is located at 701 Northview Road in Waukesha, Wisconsin. For more information, 262-542-8851 or hawspets.org.

Follow HAWS on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, TikTok and YouTube.

HAWS: Growing Our Humane Community.

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