

the Watch Dog

A PUBLICATION OF THE COLUMBIA COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY



PAWS TO THE NORTH by: Susan Bratcher, CCHS Executive Director

Where do the animals CCHS has for adoption come from? This is a question we are asked often. CCHS takes in stray animals from the municipalities we contract with, owner surrenders from people looking to place their pet in a new home, transfers from other facilities within Wisconsin and transfers from other facilities outside of Wisconsin. We do sometimes assist the local Police Departments or Sheriff's Department with neglect, abused or abandoned animals but those calls are rare in our county.

How does CCHS get other dogs from other states? CCHS works with a few different transports that coordinate runs from the southern states to the northern states. In Wisconsin, we are not the only facility that does this. The demand for rescue dogs is great and in Wisconsin, dogs are treated well, they are part of the family,

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Johnson Sales 5th Annual
Cruisin for Critters...
Sunday, August 12, 2018

All makes and models of bikes, cars & trucks welcome!

\$25 Driver | \$10 Passenger

Entry includes lunch & a door prize ticket.
 Bring non-perishable food items and receive raffle tickets! Register online by Aug 1!

www.starchapter166.com/cruisin-for-critters.html



The Columbia County Humane Society was incorporated in 1925 in response to growing community need to care for unwanted and abandoned animals. It was recognized as a charitable tax-exempt corporation in 1975. In 1978, the first shelter was constructed. Our new shelter opened in 1998 to accommodate the increasing number of animals needing care and to provide increased services to the community, allowing the Society to continue its humanitarian work well into the 21st century. We strive to educate people in the necessity of spaying and neutering their pets, promote the licensing of all dogs and cats, promote humane education, provide a shelter for the care of unwanted and stray animals, and promote rabies inoculation for all domestic animals.

...continued from page 1.

leash laws are followed and a majority of owners follow through with having their animals fixed to help control the overpopulation of dogs. In southern states, dogs are running at large, intact and sometimes running in packs. These dogs are picked up by animal control officers and taken to the local holding facility. Many go unclaimed and are unfortunately not going to make it out of the facility alive. This is where local rescue groups step in and rescue dogs from shelters. Dogs that are rescued include: adults, young adults, puppies and pregnant dogs.

The dogs are then vetted and quarantined for at least two weeks to make sure they are healthy. Dogs receive their age appropriate vaccinations which include: rabies, distemper and bordetella. Some of these vaccinations are done on intake at the facility they are pulled from and some are done after they are pulled. Adult dogs must be heartworm negative to enter the State of Wisconsin. All dogs coming from out of state must be inspected and receive an Interstate Certificate of Veterinary inspection to enter Wisconsin. Once all of this is complete, the transport coordinators work on getting the dogs transported to Wisconsin. Once the dog arrives, it goes through CCHS' intake protocol and it most likely still needs to be spayed or neutered and microchipped before it can go home with a new family.

It takes many people to coordinate, foster, get the dogs to the vet for inspections, transport to the loading locations and to make the trip. So if you happen to be looking for a dog for adoption and you hear it's from a southern state, you know it took a lot of dedication, coordination, money and time to get the dogs ready to come to Wisconsin for adoption!



BING by Barrie White

I first met King while walking dogs at CCHS. He was a sweet, perky boy, about 15 months old, lab/poodle/terrier mix from Texas. No behavior problems, though kind of mouthy as some pups are! He was adopted and returned within 24 hours for barking and lunging at a lady with a walker. He was then put in a foster home and returned within 24 hours for bizarre behavior. When let loose in a fenced yard, he tore around FAST, flipping onto his back over and over, barking and then lunging at whomever (man or beast) was there. He was totally unmanageable. I fostered him...same behavior. I noticed in his paperwork that he'd also flunked out of a foster home in Texas. As soon as he got in a home, he'd go nuts. There was no biting, though he did rip open my jeans and leg from hip to knee with his claws. My treatment was to leave the enclosed area without turning my back to him. He'd just sit there. About 5 minutes later, I returned and leashed him and he was fine! I saw it as learned behavior....someone's idea of a game? I called in a trainer to come and watch. She agreed that it was learned and thought my treatment was correct, and that obedience training would help, but cautioned me to not let another dog in the yard with him. She thought that he'd been mistreated. Over a couple of months, with lots of gentle touch & PRs and training, the behavior gradually disappeared. Then I saw renowned author and animal behaviorist Dr. Patricia McConnell speak at the Baraboo Library. The gist of the talk was that trauma causes behaviors in people and animals. PTSD. King had unusually sparse, dry, coarse fur, especially on his back, and was very thin. Could something caustic have been spilled on him? We'll never know, but he sure got the reaction down...run fast, drop and roll, attack! He's now called Bing, he's mine, he's off leash all the time with my other 3 dogs and 2 horses. He's gained 6 pounds and his fur is thick & soft. And he loves the cats. He's the smartest dog I've ever had and just a joy!



NATURAL TICK REPELLENT FOR YOUR PET

by Jessica Dredske, CCHS Board Member

Whether or not your pet is sensitive to conventional flea and tick products, natural repellents may be lower in cost and help you avoid chemical or pesticide exposure. A natural homemade repellent can be sprayed onto your pet's dry coat. Avoid getting the repellent near the eyes or other sensitive areas. If your pet doesn't like the spraying sound, you may need to apply the mix using your hands. Apply once per day if they are only going outside to go to the bathroom, or more often if they spend the entire day outside.

In a dark or opaque glass spray bottle, combine one cup water with two cups distilled white wine vinegar (to repel ticks). Then, add two spoonfuls of vegetable or almond oil, which both contain sulfur (another tick repellent). If you are also looking to repel fleas, mix in a few spoonfuls of lemon juice or drops of citrus or peppermint oil, which will all help repel ticks and fleas. When creating scented repellents using essential oils, it is important to be aware of oils that are dangerous to your pet.

TOXIC TO DOGS: anise, clove, garlic, horseradish, juniper, rosemary, thyme, wintergreen, yarrow.

TOXIC TO CATS: birch, citrus (orange, lemon), cinnamon, clove, eucalyptus, peppermint, spruce, tea tree, thyme, wintergreen, oregano.

GENERALLY SAFE OILS: cedarwood, chamomile, lavender, myrrh, clary sage, geranium, carrot seed, ginger, marjoram.

When in doubt, consult your veterinarian to get advice on the proper way to use essential oils for your pet.

DIY NATURAL TICK REPELLENT



LEARNING ABOUT YOUR PET IN SOCIAL MEDIA by Andrea Von Hoff, CCHS Board VP

If you are one of the over one billion Facebook users, you know that there are unlimited pictures and memes of our favorite dog and cat breeds. What you might not know, is that in addition to pages and groups like "Our Love of Chihuahuas," or other groups celebrating favorite breeds, there are many educational pages. I learned this after recently adopting a dog with kidney disease. Not only do these groups offer support, they also provide a large amount of information and helpful tips. A search of any type of cat or dog ailment will provide you with a number of groups to join or follow. This allows you to be able to read up on the issue or ask specific questions. Besides your vet, who better to learn from than fellow devoted pet lovers? If you are like me, you spend more time than you'd care to admit watching videos and looking at photos of our cute furry friends on the internet. Expand your perusing power and get to know other pet owners while learning more about caring for your best friend!

WHY YOU SHOULD CONSIDER ADOPTING AN OLDER CAT

by Pat Klitzke, CCHS Board Member

Are you thinking of adopting a cat or two?

While most people tend to be drawn to the kittens and younger cats, there are many reasons why a senior kitty deserves your consideration, and might just be what you are looking for. In the past month or two, we at CCHS have had more senior cats surrendered than normal. Many people think older cats end up in shelters for a reason. They think these cats were surrendered because they have behavior problems or there is something inherently wrong with them. That is just not the case. Most of our cats were brought in because their owners have died and they had nowhere else to go. These are all wonderful cats who are with us through no fault of their own.

When you enter our adoption room, the older cats are a little harder to find. The kittens and young cats are usually putting on a show, playing with their toys or climbing the sides of their cages. While this is very cute and entertaining, look around the room and consider some of the senior cats that are up for adoption. They are patiently and quietly waiting for someone to notice them. You might be surprised at what these older cats are like!

Potential adopters may be concerned about possible medical conditions in older cats. Some people may have just lost a cat of their own and don't want to face the loss of another cat in a few years. Some people want to have an active cat that is more playful. All of these reasons for adopting a younger cat are understandable, but there really are reasons you should consider the older kitties:

Senior cats come with fully-formed personalities. You know what you are getting. What you see is what you get. It is easier to tell if he or she will be a good fit for your family. I think older cats have a certain wisdom and integrity to them. They also make great napping buddies.

Older cats are usually more laidback. This might be just what you are looking for! They are content just relaxing in your company. If you want a cat who is not going to climb your curtains or terrorize your house, then a senior cat is a good choice! While older kitties may still play with their toys, they usually have much better manners than the younger cats.

Older cats may already know basic household etiquette. They are less likely to get into things, and have probably already been trained to use a scratching post.

Perhaps the best reason for considering adopting a senior cat is that you will truly be saving a life. Senior cats are some of the hardest to find homes for. It takes courage on your part to adopt an older cat. You may not have this cat as long as you would like to, but you are making such a difference in that cat's life. The possibility of giving them stable, final years after what might have been a difficult life can be so rewarding. When senior cats are adopted, they seem to understand that they have been rescued and appreciate it more than younger cats!

When you are thinking of adopting a new cat to bring into your home, please consider a senior cat. There is nothing more rewarding than making sure these cats, who have ended up in a shelter, know that someone still cares about them. Take them home, spoil them rotten, make their last years their best years, and make sure they know what it is like to be loved!



OZZY & JINXY

by Erica Zellmer, CCHS Board Member

Macho and Buddy, now Ozzy and Jinxy, had a very rough life before they were brought to CCHS. Ozzy lived under a trailer with 15 other cats and Jinxy lived outside of a motel.



Jinxy tried to convince the patrons of the motel to let him become part of their family but no one would give him a chance. Ozzy was petrified when he came to the shelter and the staff spent countless hours working with him to get him to see that humans weren't so bad after all.

Ozzy and Jinxy were adopted together by a wonderful couple that couldn't resist their cuteness. Jinxy, of course, was a love bug from the get go, but Ozzy took a little longer to realize that he was safe. Ozzy now demands attention non-stop!



These are just a couple of examples of what can happen when stray cats are given the chance to love and be loved. We are so happy for Ozzy and Jinxy and so thankful for the wonderful couple that couldn't live without them! We are also so thankful to our fantastic staff and generous supporters! These happy endings wouldn't be possible without them!



STRAY CATS IN THE COMMUNITY

by Michele Baillies, CCHS Board President

In recent news, some topics have come up about what to do about the stray cat population, or stray cats running at large.

First, I want everyone to know the City of Portage has a contract with the Columbia County Humane Society to take in all stray dogs and cats. If you have stray dogs or cats on your property, in the City of Portage, please contact the shelter. If you have an animal on your property and you are unable to safely capture it or it is feral, CCHS has humane live traps on site for rental. CCHS is required by the State of Wisconsin to hold strays for 4 days. If unclaimed, an animal can be offered for adoption. CCHS also has contracts with 31 of the 35 municipalities within our county to hold stray dogs and cats. If you have a stray dog or cat outside of the City of Portage, please contact the shelter to see if your municipality contracts with the shelter and how to go about bringing in a stray.

Secondly, when you see a stray animal roaming about, it truly is a community problem. Humane Societies can't do it alone. We are here to help offer a solution, but community members need to help do their part by making sure cats and dogs are not allowed to roam intact and contribute to pet overpopulation. Please keep identification on your pets and have your pets vaccinated, licensed, microchipped, and spayed/neutered. **Responsible pet ownership starts with you!**

Low or no cat adoption fees!



Vetted! Need homes!





Back in January 2018, we were visited by Ms. Greimel's 6th Grade Class from Westfield Elementary. This group of students decided instead of a gift exchange this year, they would get gifts for the animals at CCHS!. They brought toys, cleaning supplies, food, treat and may other supplies to help the staff care for the animals at CCHS. We are very grateful. They stayed and toured the Cat Adoption Room and met many cute cats for adoption!



This sweet boy is Benjamin. He did a very generous thing for the animals at CCHS. He asked for supplies and food for the animals for his 5th Birthday!



Happy 6th Birthday, Lydia! Lydia asked her friends and family for donations to the shelter this April in lieu of gifts for herself.



Thank you Portage High School GEMS Club for volunteering at CCHS this May! They are pictured here with Duke. They enjoyed helping us with walking dogs, brushing cats, and putting away donations!



As part of the kick-off to their new grocery pickup service, Walmart presented \$1,000 checks to the Portage Public Library, Columbia County Humane Society, Poynette Police Department, and the Portage Food Pantry. Pictured is Office Manager Pam Klitzke (center) accepting the donation for CCHS!





Happy Birthday, Jasper! This April, Jasper asked his friends and family to donate to the animal shelter instead of bringing him gifts.

CCHS would like to thank the Tractor Supply Co. in Portage for their donation a pallet of Dog and Cat food for the animals at CCHS. We received, canned food, dry cat food and dry dog food. We are very thankful for their donation. Thank you TSC! Please note: this is only half of the food pictured. Imagine twice as much food!

Edward Jones Investments did a donation drive for CCHS. They dropped off these donations and a \$50 monetary donation. We are so thankful for their effort to help homeless pets!

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

CCHS yearly memberships are due at beginning of our fiscal year: July 1.

We depend on community contributions to maintain the high standard of care for the shelter animals and continue on-going programs in the area!

Our membership application is on our website, or you are welcome to send a check, use PayPal, or call our main office with your credit card information.

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

- Pet \$5
- Senior Citizen \$10
- Individual \$15
- Family \$25
- Patron \$50
- Benefactor \$100

SPECIFIC DESIGNATIONS

Please consider making an additional gift to support two of our designated programs.

- Bibi Fund – Extreme Medical Need**
- Cat Colony Fund – Trap/Neuter/Release**



CCHS Volunteer Orientation is the second Saturday of every month, 12pm at the shelter. If you are interested in volunteering, there are four steps:

1. **Become a CCHS member** (*online*)
2. **Complete the Volunteer Application** (*online*)
3. **Bring with you, an application & a check for \$20*** (*payable to CCHS*), cash, or visa/mastercard
4. **Attend our Volunteer Orientation!**

*Your \$20 includes one CCHS Volunteer t-shirt. Additional shirts are \$7 for each family member!



MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

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Jerry Manecke
Danielle Kamps
Dennis Bohn
Rheannon Kiddoo
Gian Jagai
Joel & Marilyn Andelman

Laurence & Helen Bogh

Anita Schroeder
Daughters
Grandchildren

John Klennert WWII Vet

Mark, Becky & Jared Bond

David Bond

Mark, Becky & Jared Bond

Rosemary Bond

Mark, Becky & Jared Bond

Betty Klennert

Mark, Becky & Jared Bond

Marvin Bond

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Snickers, Duke Sadie, Lady

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Buddy, Duke & Mya

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Gloria Dreyer
Drew Elsner
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Anniversary

Norm & Joanne Finnell

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50th ANNIVERSARY

Dave & Jackie Schultz

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BIRTHDAYS

Lily Simonson

Salena LeMaster

Rosemary Gibbs

Rachel Schmidt

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Michelle Bright

Marilyn Bright

Clarke Sullivan's 2nd Birthday

Ryan Ulm

Lydia Visger's 6th Birthday

Donna Finley
Julie Pulvermacher

Jami Hayes

Cynthia Wilkins

Molly

Cynthia Burch

CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Jane Clemmons

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DONATIONS NEEDED ALERT!

Renata was rescued from a convenience store in Texas while she was in labor! Early in May, she made the trip with her 3 week old puppies to CCHS so we could care for them while they grow up and look for their forever homes. (We are currently not taking applications on them, but will share when we are.) We are now going through 12 cans of ground canned dog food daily to supplement these babies (we are supplementing 3 times daily both mom and pups).

Can you help us by donating?

Visit our Amazon Wish List for easy donating and it will include the types of canned dog food we really need right now. Along with feeding them, all of the other dogs at CCHS get supplements and canned dog food daily. The number of cans we are going through adds up very quickly and our supply is getting low! Can you help us help them? Here is our link to our Amazon Wish List with a variety of canned food for the dogs and puppies at

CCHS. <http://a.co/9zDoLD3>

Please share!



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WELCOME!

CCHS welcomes our newest board member, Jessica Dredske. Jessica is a Pardeeville native who practices as a Doctor of Chiropractic at Blau Family Chiropractic in Portage. She plans to expand her practice to animals upon completion of the Veterinary Spinal Manipulation Therapy program. When not at work or volunteering at the shelter, you can find her running with her dog or enjoying the north woods!



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