

# Critter Chronicles

Spring 2020 | Vol 37 Issue 1

- Meet our three new veterinarians
- Book Buddies: dogs make the best reading partners
- Join the WHS foster family
- Pet Walk registration is open





**The mission of the Wisconsin Humane Society is to build a community where people value animals and treat them with respect and kindness.**

[www.wihumane.org](http://www.wihumane.org) 414.264.6257

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## Pets for Life: Miracle

Our Pets for Life program serves families and pets in Milwaukee neighborhoods with high rates of poverty and little access to services for the pets they love. The Pets for Life team does door-to-door outreach five days a week, even in the cold winter, to meet community members and their pets ensure families have information about the services we provide.

Our team met Miracle and her two adorable kittens, P and BB, through one of Miracle's family members who had used our services. Miracle was thrilled that our program provided her two kittens with free a spay/neuter surgery, core vaccines, and a microchip. Our PFL team follows up with clients after spay/neuter surgery and remains a resource to families with pets. Recently, Miracle called our team to say that her kitten, P, had cut his paw while playing. Miracle did all she could to make sure P got the care he needed. She took him to the veterinarian for stitches and antibiotics, but wasn't able to afford his follow up care to make sure P was healing well.



Our team was able to provide support through our partnership with the University of Wisconsin's Shelter Medicine program. We're happy to report that the adorable patient is healing well and will be back to his usual kitten antics in no time!

## Beautiful Bufflehead Recovering at WHS



This handsome, male Bufflehead is currently in care for overall weakness, head trauma, and a few punctures. He's responding well to treatment thus far, and we're hopeful for continued improvement.

Buffleheads are surprisingly small, with this male weighing in under a pound! Super cute Bufflehead fact: they commonly use holes in trees made by Northern Flickers for their nest cavities. That's how tiny they are!



# Join the WHS Foster Family!

Looking for a short-term commitment that can have a lifelong impact on the life of an animal?

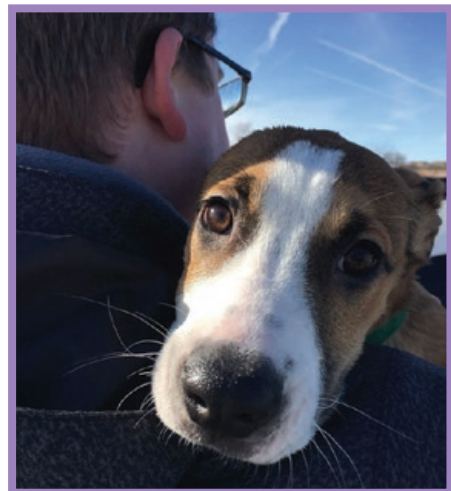
WHS is in need of volunteer foster families who are willing to care for an animal in their home on a temporary basis. Animals need foster for a variety of reasons, most often because they are too young for adoption, are recovering from an illness or injury, or have a behavior issue they're working on. **It's easy, fast, and fun to get started – simply go to [www.wihumane.org/foster](http://www.wihumane.org/foster) to watch an online orientation and sign up!**

One of our favorite aspects of the WHS Foster Program is the incredible network of foster parents who support you every step of the way. We have a private Facebook group dedicated to our foster families, and we couldn't help but share just a few of the gems that were recently posted.



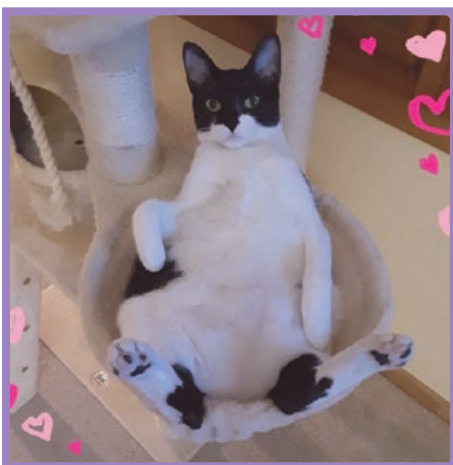
"This guy goes back tomorrow for a recheck. I know we want them to find their forever family but I'm really hoping he comes back for a little bit. Hobson is SO.STINKING.SWEET, he literally gave me kisses through his whole shower tonight. He's a 6-month-old smaller pittie. He's playful, plays beautifully with our two pups, loves to snuggle on the couch at the end of the day, makes little squeaking noise when he's tired as he falls asleep."

- Tracy



"Our latest foster, Mariah, is doing great. She arrived as a scared, extremely thin dog who shook and kept her tail between her legs. Now she is happy, eating, playing with our dogs, and demonstrates an awesome talent for catching balls."

- Nancy



"Foster fail update, Alora living the good life, with not a care in the world....my wife made me add the hearts to the picture."

- Chad

"I want to give a shout out to the gentleman at the MKE campus who manned the front desk and accepted my foster drop-off, Tabb, today. I wish I knew this man's name, because he was so kind to me when I truly needed it. He thanked me for fostering and told me about how he uses the paperwork we fill out on the animal to help adopters understand what the animal is like in a home environment. As I started to leave, he noticed that I became visibly upset (usually I can hold it until I get to the car, but Tabb and I bonded pretty hard.) This man offered me tissues, reassured me, and validated me as an important part of these animals' lives. So this is for anyone who needs to hear this today, like I did:

*Thank you for being a foster parent. Thank you for sharing your home and loving this animal in their time of need. And thank you for bringing them back and allowing another family to love and adopt them.*

I will forever hold a special place in my heart for every foster who comes through my door, but I have to allow myself to grieve and let go, so I can help another foster."

- Coley

# SNAPSHOT 2019



**Your support is vital  
to saving lives.**

The Wisconsin Humane Society operates five shelters in **Milwaukee, Saukville, Racine, Green Bay, and Sturgeon Bay**, as well as a public **Spay/Neuter Clinic in West Allis** and a **Wildlife Rehabilitation Center in Milwaukee**. There is no national umbrella group in animal welfare; we are not a part of HSUS, ASPCA, or PETA. We don't receive any general government funding, and we are an independent nonprofit working locally in the communities we serve.

The mission of the Wisconsin Humane Society is to build a community where people value animals and treat them with respect and kindness.

## THANK YOU FOR MAKING ALL OF THIS POSSIBLE!

**19,580**  
spay/neuter  
surgeries

were performed including 9,332 at our Spay/Neuter Clinic.

**13,032**  
adoptions

Animals in our adoption program have as long as it takes to find a new home.

**4,077**  
dogs & cats

were adopted as "special needs" because of medical or behavioral issues.

**1,447**  
animals

transferred from MADACC for adoption at WHS.

**5,129**  
wild animals

were admitted to the Wildlife Rehabilitation Center.

**3,915**  
animals  
fostered

by 761 families. Our foster network functions like a 6<sup>th</sup> shelter and makes a huge impact.

**4,705**  
families

served through our Pets for Life program, and 1,061 animals were spayed/neutered.

**2,161**  
animals

were reunited with their families compared to 1,915 last year.

**46,518+**  
individuals

were inspired to make a donation to support WHS programming.

**8,386** children  
were reached through our youth programming.

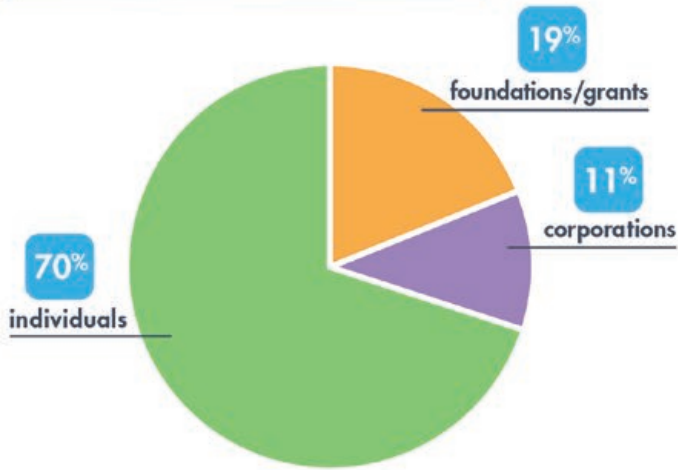
**3,430** animals  
transferred from overcrowded shelters or via emergency relief efforts.

**825** people  
contributed an amazing \$2,015,177 to our capital campaign for the new Racine Campus.

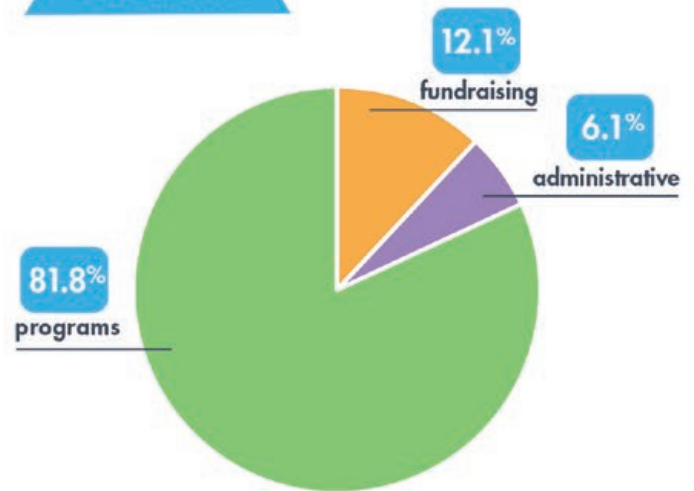
**3,304** volunteers  
worked an incredible 85,000 hours; 1,217 new volunteers joined this year.



## CONTRIBUTION SOURCES



## EXPENSES



## DID YOU KNOW?

This work requires a lot more than just kibble!  
Here are a few interesting expenses from the past year...



**\$288,344**

to keep the lights on and shelters warm.



**813**

cans of formula to feed orphaned kittens.



**1,007**

gallons of disinfectant cleaning solution.



**\$77,674**

to vaccinate shelter animals.



**\$16,854**

to purchase collars for safe walks & ID tags.



**8,100**

phone calls answered via Wildlife Center hotline.



**\$4,750**

to transport Pets for Life animals to spay/neuter appointments.



**\$58,380**

to microchip shelter animals.

**REVENUE:** \$16,967,467 | **EXPENSES:** \$12,973,536

**FEDERAL TAX ID** #39-0810533

Ranked 4 out of 4 STARS by Charity Navigator

[www.wihumane.org](http://www.wihumane.org) | 414-ANIMALS



# Meet Our Three New Veterinarians



**Dr. Hillary Feldman-Tempini** has arrived as the full-time veterinarian for the WHS Green Bay Campus! Dr. Feldmann-Tempini grew up in New England and graduated from the Tufts School of Veterinary Medicine in 2014. She completed an internship in livestock medicine and surgery at the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine and a Dairy Production Medicine residency at the University of California-Davis Veterinary Medical School. While at UC Davis, she also obtained a Master's in Preventive Veterinary Medicine and acquired board certification with the American College of Veterinary Preventive Medicine. In her free-time she loves winter, outdoor activities of any kind, road trips across the country, and working at home on the farm.

**Dr. Noelle Schariest** grew up in rural northeastern Pennsylvania and has been working with shelters/rescues since high school. She graduated from the University of Glasgow School of Veterinary Medicine in Scotland and has traveled abroad to experience veterinary medicine in India, New Zealand, and Nicaragua. She completed a Shelter Medicine internship at the Humane Society of Boulder Valley in Colorado, and stayed there as a shelter and clinic veterinarian before joining the team at WHS. Dr. Schariest will be practicing at both our Spay/Neuter Clinic and Milwaukee Campus. Her cat, Bandit, road-tripped with her from Colorado to Wisconsin (and was a great co-pilot!).



Prior to veterinary school, **Dr. Brooke Groskopf** volunteered at the Wisconsin Humane Society. After graduating from the University of Wisconsin Veterinary Medical School in 2011, Dr. Brooke moved to Utah to work for the Best Friends Animal Society. She has also worked at the Pennsylvania SPCA, as well as high volume spay/neuter nonprofit organizations. Dr. Brooke is happy to return to Wisconsin and is excited about being back at WHS. Dr. Groskopf will be practicing at both our Spay/Neuter Clinic and Milwaukee Campus. In her spare time, Dr. Brooke enjoys taking care of her own animals – 6 cats, 4 dogs, 2 horses, one mini horse, one mini donkey, and a goat.

## Book Buddies Blast Off

January kicked off another session of our beloved Book Buddies program at the Milwaukee Campus. Book Buddies brings shelter animals and young people together through reading. The Wisconsin Humane Society teams up with Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS) to provide young people in grades 3-5 the chance to read to dogs in our adoption program. The Book Buddies program helps students develop skills and an interest in reading by providing a nonjudgmental audience of shelter animals. In addition to the benefits for young people, the program provides our dogs with a fun opportunity for socialization and creates a special bond between shelter animals and young people.

We can already see the program sparking excitement in the young people we serve. Before the program began on night one, a student asked, "Are people going to be listening to us?" When our Youth Impact Specialist, Paige, replied, "No, just the dogs," the student's face lit up and she said, "Oh good, because I'm shy."





# Mark Your Calendar: Upcoming Classes & Seminars!

## **Pet Loss Discussion Group | Milwaukee Campus**

**Wednesday, April 1, 2020 | 7 p.m. - 8 p.m.**

**Wednesday, May 6, 2020 | 7 p.m. - 8 p.m.**

**Wednesday, June 3, 2020 | 7 p.m. - 8 p.m.**

This one-hour program will include a discussion of the grieving process for all age groups, suggestions for coping with loss and attention to special situations such as euthanasia decisions. Commonly experienced stages of grief, gaining support from others, getting through the first, worst days, and when to consult a professional therapist as well as special situations. A \$10 fee for this seminar includes a \$5 gift certificate to our Animal Antics retail store to purchase one of the pet loss booklets available.

## **Pooch Playtime | Milwaukee Campus**

**Sunday, April 19, 2020 | 1:30 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.**

**Sunday, May 17, 2020 | 1:30 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.**

**Sunday, June 14, 2020 | 1:30 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.**

Is your dog longing to get out for more playtime and socialization? Join us for Pooch Playtime! Your dog can run and play in our indoor climate-controlled training center. We provide a fun and relaxing environment for playtime that is monitored by two WHS volunteers. Only \$8 per dog for each 45-minute play session, limited to 8 dogs. Pre-registration is required!

## **Hoppy Hour | Milwaukee Campus**

**Sunday, April 19, 2020 | 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**

**Sunday, June 14, 2020 | 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**

Join us for this social hour for rabbits and their people! It's a time when all different kinds of rabbits can come together to play, run, frolic, and socialize. The cost is \$10 per bunny and registration is limited.

## **Leslie McDevitt Control Unleashed 2-day workshop**

**Redline Canine Training Center**

**Saturday, April 25, 2020 & Sunday, April 26, 2020**

We are thrilled to share Leslie McDevitt and her Control Unleashed material and exercises. Leslie is a Certified Dog Behavior Consultant (CDBC), internationally renowned speaker and author famous for her popular and powerful program Control Unleashed (often abbreviated as "CU"). Through her classes, seminars, books, and DVDs, Leslie helps dog owners and training instructors turn stress into confidence, and distraction into focus, using methods that are entirely based on positive reinforcement. Her Control Unleashed program is designed specifically to help dogs with "issues" learn how to relax, focus, and work off-leash reliably in either stressful or stimulating situations. Held at Redline Canine Training Center, W188 N11770 Maple Road Door 3, Germantown, WI 53022. Two-day workshop registration fee \$320.

## **Canine Massage Workshop | Milwaukee Campus**

**Wednesday, June 3, 2020 | 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.**

Relax, de-stress, and relieve your dog and yourself by learning basic relaxation and therapeutic massage techniques. Canine massage is more than just "fluff." Massage certainly relaxes and relieves pain, but it can also lower stress and anxiety, build confidence, soothe arthritis, increase flexibility, and prevent potential future injury...just to list a few of the benefits! The fee for this workshop is \$40 per dog.

**TO REGISTER for an event, please visit:**  
**[wihumane.org/events](http://wihumane.org/events)**

Because reading to shelter animals is less intimidating for young people, they can read without fear of making mistakes, furthering their confidence and increasing their interest in and excitement about reading. It's rare and special for students to have someone who is just there to listen, even if their listener has four paws. Another student mentioned that his mom is afraid of dogs and thinks they're scary, but after meeting a friendly shelter dog, he wants to adopt one when he is older. Providing hands-on experiences that create a different narrative and build connections between animals and young people is valuable for individual students and our community as a whole.

This session of Book Buddies will continue through the end of February, and we'll host two more groups of students before the end of the school year. If you'd like to learn more about our Book Buddies program or other programs for young people, visit [www.wihumane.org/for-kids](http://www.wihumane.org/for-kids).



# GET READY FOR PET WALK 2020!

## PET WALK GREEN BAY

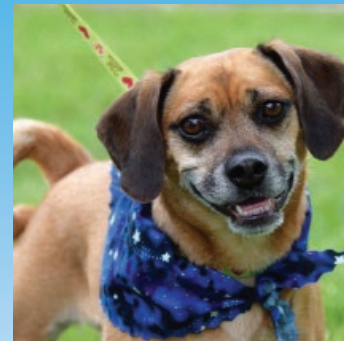
Sunday, June 7

Brown County Fairgrounds, DePere, WI

## PET WALK MKE (formerly Tails on the Trail)

Saturday, June 20

Veterans Park, Milwaukee, WI



### WHY SHOULD YOU JOIN PET WALK 2020?

- **It's fun!** It's a blast to see all the dogs and spend time with family and friends! Plus, it's followed by our post-race festival including: music, food, dog games, prize wheels, a doggie fashion show, best trick contest, vendors, exhibitors, lure and agility courses, and our Doggie Dash Speed Zone to see how fast your pup can run!
- **It's easy!** Everyone is welcome and anyone can register for the run or walk—regardless of whether or not you have a dog? You can sign up online today and save with early bird registration prices!
- **It's making a difference!** In the last five years, our Pet Walk events have raised nearly \$2 million for the animals at the **Wisconsin Humane Society**. Every registration, donation, sponsorship, company match, Facebook post, and email asking for support made that happen, and we have YOUR SUPPORT to thank for the countless animals who received lifesaving care as a result of your generosity.
- **You can earn awesome swag!** Collect donations from friends, family and co-workers – or donate yourself – and you'll earn sweet prizes for reaching different fundraising levels! Prizes include apparel, toys for your pup, hotel stays, access to our VIP Heroes Hangout, and more.

And remember, Pet Walk is dog-friendly, but you don't have to have a dog to participate—everyone is welcome!

**LEARN MORE TODAY!** PET WALK GREEN BAY: [www.petwalkgb.com](http://www.petwalkgb.com) | PET WALK MKE: [www.petwalkmke.com](http://www.petwalkmke.com)

## save the date **EVENTS 2020** visit [WWW.WIHUMANE.ORG/EVENTS](http://WWW.WIHUMANE.ORG/EVENTS)

### MILWAUKEE AREA

#### FOX6 Pet Telethon

Friday, March 20

Live on FOX6 News

6 a.m. – 10 a.m.

#### Pet Walk MKE

Saturday, June 20

Veterans Park

#### Feasting for Fido

Thursday, July 23

WHS Milwaukee Campus

#### Milwaukee Lakefront Marathon

Team WHS Charity Partnership

Sunday, October 4

Run on behalf of the animals!

#### Paws & Claws Gala

Saturday, October 17

The Pfister Hotel

### OZAUKEE AREA

#### Feasting for Felix

Thursday, August 13

WHS Ozaukee Campus

### GREEN BAY AREA

#### Dog Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 11

Brown County Dog Park

#### Barkin' Beer Fest

Sunday, April 19

Badger State Brewing

#### Pet Walk Green Bay

Sunday, June 7

Brown County Fairgrounds

#### Holiday Bingo Extravaganza

Thursday, November 12

Stadium View

### DOOR COUNTY AREA

#### Dog Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 4

WHS Door County Campus

#### Rummage Sale

Friday, May 1 - Saturday, May 2

Arle Memorial Hall (formerly Knights of Columbus Hall)

#### Feasting for Fido — Door County

Thursday, May 14

WHS Door County Campus

#### Pet Walk Door County

Saturday, September 12

Sunset Park

### RACINE AREA

Great news! The new Wisconsin Humane Society Racine Campus is slated to open in spring of 2020! Stay tuned at [wihumane.org](http://wihumane.org) for more details and updates.