

Critter Chronicles

Summer 2019 | Vol 36 Issue 2

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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 414.264.6257

milwaukee | ozaukee | racine | green bay | door county | spay/neuter clinic

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Puppies found outside Target recover from Parvovirus



Thanks to your help, two stray puppies have recovered from Parvovirus. They were found in May, playing in the grass outside of a Target store and brought to the WHS Racine Campus by a kind family concerned for the pups' safety.

We were baffled when our extensive search for an owner left us empty-handed, so we named these golden girls ourselves: Rose and Blanche. Upon their veterinary assessment, our team noticed that both puppies had live fleas, burrs in their fur, and runny eyes, all of which can be treated with a bath and some medication. But sadly, both Rose and Blanche also tested positive for Parvovirus, a terrible illness that is highly fatal if left untreated.

Thanks to the fast action of our vet team, the diagnosis was swift and they began treatment immediately. It's a delicate, costly process – Parvo treatment takes weeks of intensive care and their immune systems are still quite fragile for a while after treatment. They each received fluids, prescription food, and constant monitoring, plus highly specialized cleaning in our isolation ward.

When we told their story to the public, we were floored by the outpouring of support for their care. Thank you so much! We don't receive general government funding and we're not a part of any national group; we depend on the local community to save animals like Rose and Blanche. Your support made that possible and we're so deeply grateful.

Parvo is a highly contagious and deadly virus which is usually passed in stools and can last in the environment for more than a year under the right conditions. Parvo affects both young dogs and unvaccinated adult dogs; for both, it is often fatal. Symptoms of the parvovirus include vomiting, diarrhea, lethargy, and dehydration. Because parvo is a viral disease, there is no cure. Treatment is instead aimed at maintaining fluid and electrolyte balance, as well as preventing secondary bacterial infection.

The parvo vaccine is part of routine veterinary vaccinations recommended for all puppies and dogs. The vaccine is generally administered around six weeks and is re-administered three to four additional times before a dog is a year old, then annually after that. All dogs who enter WHS are vaccinated immediately against parvovirus as a preventative measure.

WHS receives \$200,000 from The Rachael Ray Foundation™ to support foster program

The Wisconsin Humane Society (WHS) has announced that it has received a \$200,000 grant from The Rachael Ray Foundation™ to support its foster program.

"We are absolutely floored by the generosity of our friends at The Rachael Ray Foundation," said Anne Reed, president and CEO at WHS. "This incredible gift will truly save the lives of thousands of animals this year and we couldn't be more grateful."

In 2018, more than 3,500 animals were cared for by WHS foster parents. Foster parents provide temporary care for animals until they are ready to move into the WHS adoption program. Most foster animals are in recovery from an illness or injury, or are simply too young for adoption. The goal of foster care is to better support the physical and behavioral health of animals in a home environment by reducing stress and minimizing in-shelter length of stay.

In anticipation of a busy summer, WHS is currently looking for new foster parents for both dogs and cats. To become a foster parent for the Rachael Ray™ Nutrish® Foster Program at the Wisconsin Humane Society, simply visit wihumane.org/foster to get started.

The Rachael Ray Foundation™ is funded by a portion of proceeds from each sale of Rachael's pet food, Nutrish®. Through March 2019, more than \$35 million dollars has been donated to animal charities and other organizations that do good for animals through The Rachael Ray Foundation and its predecessor entity. The funds are used for food, medical supplies, treatments, and more.



Celebrate Your Animal - and WHS, too!

Our adopted furry friends may not be human, but we want to celebrate them just like family! Celebrating your alumni's adoption anniversaries is a fun way to spoil your pets and to give back to the Wisconsin Humane Society. That's what Athena and her family did recently for their 16-year-old WHS alum, Korbella. The party, complete with adorable pup-cakes, raised funds for other shelter animals in need.

Are you about to celebrate a birthday or an adoption anniversary and want to throw a party benefiting WHS? We can help with fundraising toolkits, materials, and more! Reach out to our team at 414-431-6122 or rward@wihumane.org.



Meet PFL clients: Terry & Tequila

It's an unfortunate reality that families facing tough situations sometimes aren't able to keep their animal, often when they need their pet's unconditional love most. We're always happy animals are able to stay with the families they love, and even more pleased when we're able to play a role in their connection.

An emergency housing shelter recently reached out to us on behalf of Terry, a man who was facing homelessness. The shelter was willing to let Terry's dog, Tequila, stay with him in the shelter but recommended she get vaccinated, spayed, and microchipped. Terry wanted Tequila to get the care she needed, but faced financial and transportation barriers to accessing these services.

Because the shelter where Terry was living was located in our Pets for Life program's focus community, we were able to provide these services at no charge, and even gave Tequila a ride to and from her appointment. Terry was thrilled and told our team, **"Tequila is all I have left and she brings me great joy."** Terry's case worker also shared that Tequila brings other residents comfort, as well. We were humbled to be able to keep these friends together through Terry's transition.



We're grateful to Dogs Trust USA, and all of our generous donors, for their support of our Pets for Life program, which makes stories like Terry and Tequila's possible. For more information about our Pets for Life program, visit www.wihumane.org/services/pets-for-life.

Thanks to Maddie's Fund for lifesaving educational opportunities!



Alison Kleibor, Director of Animal Sheltering, recently attended two fantastic apprenticeships thanks to the support from Maddie's Fund®: the Maddie's® Managing Shelter Health Apprenticeship at Charleston Animal Society, and the Maddie's® Ringworm Apprenticeship Program at San Francisco SPCA.

The first workshop focused on managing admissions, ASV guidelines for standard of care, fostering, disease recognition, biosecurity, enrichment, identifying stress, and much more. The ringworm workshop addressed prevention, protocols, management, and treatment for ringworm that can be implemented in shelters, as well as building a program that helps to educate the community on ringworm.

We are grateful to Maddie's Fund® for these opportunities for Alison to explore innovative programs and approaches across the country, and bring those ideas back to Wisconsin to further improve our work for animals and the community!

Maddie's Fund® is a family foundation created in 1994 by Workday® co-founder Dave Duffield and his wife, Cheryl, who have endowed the Foundation with more than \$300 million. Since then, the Foundation has awarded more than \$225.7 million in grants toward increased community lifesaving, shelter management leadership, shelter medicine education, and foster care across the U.S. The Duffields named Maddie's Fund after their Miniature Schnauzer Maddie, who always made them laugh and gave them much joy. Maddie was with Dave and Cheryl for ten years and continues to inspire them today.

WHS Welcomes New Staff Members

The Youth Programs team is thrilled to welcome two new members, Libby Jones and Jordan Safranski. Libby and Jordan will support the work we're doing at our Ozaukee and Green Bay Campuses to engage young people ages two to 18 in our mission.



Libby | Youth Programs Specialist | Ozaukee

Libby joined the Wisconsin Humane Society as a part-time Adoption Counselor at the Ozaukee Campus in May 2018. She also worked as a substitute teacher for the Port Washington-Saukville school district and a school programs instructor at the Milwaukee Zoological Society. Libby was a zookeeper for many years at Disney's Animal Kingdom.

Most excited about: Working with kids and animals! Libby is excited to apply her background to companion animals.

Animals: Two dogs: Ziggy and Maisy; 4 cats: Baby, Mira, Angel, and Maple; Elliot, a 23-year-old African Gray; Noodle, a fish; and Sophie, a tarantula



Jordan | Youth Programs Specialist | Green Bay

Jordan just graduated from UW-Green Bay with a B.A. in English. Prior to joining our team, Jordan was an intern for SECURA Insurance, as well as UntitledTown Book and Author Festival.

Most excited about: Getting to introduce kids to animals! Jordan is very excited for the opportunity to foster a love of animals in children.

Animals: Two long-haired cats, Cleo and Spooky Jim Christmas, who love to wake her up by laying on her face every morning.

Jordan and Libby are joining the team just in time for our action-packed summer. We host camps for kids who have completed grades 1 through 8 at our Milwaukee, Ozaukee, and Green Bay Campuses. In addition, we offer camps for kids who have completed Kindergarten and grades 9 and 10 at our Green Bay Campus.

Jordan will lead all of the summer camps at our Green Bay Campus, including a new camp, Creative Critter Art Camp, for young people grades 3 to 6 with an interest in art. Jordan is our first full-time youth programs staff member at our Green Bay Campus and her full-time role will allow us to expand the number of programs we can offer to young people in Brown County, including field trips, Scout Nights, birthday parties, and more!

Libby will lead summer camps and our People and Animals Learning (PAL) program, which engages underserved youth and taps into their empathy and strengthens self-esteem through work with animals. Libby and Jordan join Dezarae Jones-Hartwig, our Youth Programs Manager, and Britney Kruesel, our Youth Programs Specialist in Milwaukee. This team of four engages 8,000 young people every year!

Check out more information about all of our youth programs on our website under the "For Kids" tab.

A box of kittens

Imagine our surprise when we discovered a meowing box at our front doors in Racine one early morning in May. Tucked inside were a momma cat and her four kittens, plus two bonus kittens, older and obviously from another litter! We marched them inside and quickly unpacked our special delivery. Mom and her babies went to a foster home to grow up big and strong, and the two older kittens were able to path through to adoption after their initial stray hold.

We have no idea where they came from, nor why, but we're grateful that someone brought them to us. While we'd always prefer to speak with an owner to learn more about an animal's history and health, we're just glad that this batch of kittens (plus mom!) made it to a safe place. Please know that we are always willing to work with clients to reduce or waive surrender fees if finances are a barrier to surrender. And although we prefer an appointment so we can best prepare for an animal's arrival, we will never turn away an animal in need.

Thank you to the person who made sure the box of kittens made it to us safely! And don't hesitate to come through the doors if you need us again; we're here to help not only animals, but also people in our community!



Tundra Swans released after long winter



This past winter, we didn't just get one Tundra Swan, we got two! "Mitchell," was an adult swan, and "Belle" was a juvenile. Mitchell was injured at an airport and had probably collided with a taxing aircraft. He sustained a badly bruised wing and flight-feather damage. Belle was found sick and debilitated in an adjoining county and received initial care at Wanakia Wildlife Rehabilitation Center. Wanakia had their single swan; we had Mitchell, both swans needed to receive care over the winter, so we, and Marty from Wanakia, thought it was best to get the two swans together.

Mitchell and Belle were buddies from the moment they met. They did everything together. Eat, swim, preen their feathers; whatever Mitchell did, Belle did too.

It was a challenge to provide months of care for two very large birds, but with your support, we did it, and we released the pair in early April, just in time for other Tundra Swans to migrate north through our area.

Generous supporter helps stray animals find loving homes

Pictured here is 12-year-old Baily, one of a number of lucky animals who came to WHS after their stray holds at the Milwaukee Area Domestic Animal Control Commission (MADACC) were complete.

In honor of his own birthday, this amazing WHS friend sponsored the care of Baily & nearly a dozen other animals throughout their stay at WHS. This generosity paid for food, shelter, medical care & behavior assessments. His only birthday wish was to help homeless animals in our community we were so touched.

Baily, her friends from MADACC, & WHS could not be more grateful for such a selfless act of kindness.



Orphan Kanines survivors: 5 years later

Five years ago on May 29, 2014, the Wisconsin Humane Society assisted Caledonia Police and Fire Departments in removing 94 animals from a "shelter" called Orphan Kanines, as well as two private residences. The 80 dogs, 12 cats, and 2 pigs had been living in horrible conditions and were suffering from medical issues, injuries, and behavioral challenges. Inside the Orphan Kanines kennels, the concrete floors were covered in feces, it was incredibly loud, the dogs didn't have clean space to eat or sleep, and the lack of ventilation combined with mold, excrement, and urine made the air quality dangerously potent. The animals were removed, treated, rehabilitated, and eventually placed into loving homes during an historic adoption event a few weeks later.

Now, 5 years later, we're celebrating those survivors and the adoptive families who've unconditionally loved them ever since. We reached out for updates on how the animals are doing now or memorial messages remembering those who have passed. If you haven't had a chance to read through the moving stories we received, we encourage you to visit our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/wischumane and click on the "Photos" section to find the album. Here is just one of the photo updates we received, demonstrating the transformative power of love, patience, and compassion.

"We adopted Bubbles and Jewels. Now their names are Daisy and DJ, and they are the sweetest girls imaginable!"

-Joseph S.



Before



After

Mark Your Calendar: Upcoming Events!

Feasting for Fido | Milwaukee Campus

Thursday, July 25, 2019 | 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

The Wisconsin Humane Society is hosting the 11th annual Feasting for Fido! Join us for a tasting of Milwaukee's best vegetarian food where attendees enjoy samples from more than 20 of Milwaukee's finest restaurants, live music, wine, beer, a silent auction, and more, all to support homeless animals.

Feasting for Felix | Ozaukee Campus

Thursday, August 15, 2019 | 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

The Wisconsin Humane Society Ozaukee Campus will be hosting the 8th annual Feasting for Felix. This fun evening features tastings of creative cuisine from some of Ozaukee County's best restaurants, beer and wine, festive music, and our four-legged friends as greeters!



Milwaukee Lakefront Marathon

Starts at Grafton High School

Sunday, October 6, 2019 | 10:00 a.m.

Join TEAM WHS and help save the lives of homeless animals! TEAM WHS is a new charity racing and fundraising partnership, giving 2019 Lakefront Marathon participants the opportunity to run this year's race on behalf of Wisconsin Humane Society! When you join Team WHS, you commit to raising much-needed funds for the 40,000 animals the Wisconsin Humane Society serves each year, and in return, we'll waive your entry fee into this year's Milwaukee Lakefront Marathon. In addition, you'll receive an exclusive Team WHS race jersey and become part of a community of people who are committed to saving the lives of animals in need.

Join Team WHS today by contacting us at events@wihumane.org.

TO REGISTER for an event, please visit: wihumane.org/events

Mark Your Calendar: Upcoming Classes & Seminars!

Shy Dog Class | Ozaukee Campus Saturday, July 6, 2019 | 9:00 a.m.

This six-week course is designed for dogs that are fearful or shy of people, other dogs, objects, noises, etc. This class is not for reactive dogs who are barking, growling, lunging at other dogs, people or objects. In these sessions, we use desensitizing and counter conditioning techniques. You will also learn basic training cues that help your dog to build confidence and make you proud, too.



Dog Manners Class | Ozaukee Campus Saturday, July 6, 2019 | 10:15 a.m.

This class is for dogs 5 months and older. Our experienced staff of instructors makes training your dog a fun and rewarding experience for people AND dogs! This is a "must do" class, designed to teach you how to communicate with your dog. During this six-week session, your dog will be introduced to cues such as sit, down, stay, off, leave it, wait at the door, come, walking on a loose leash, and more! \$130 for dogs adopted from a shelter or rescue. \$150 for non-adopted dogs.

Pet Loss Support | Milwaukee Campus Wednesday, July 10, 2019 | 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Wednesday, August 7, 2019 | 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 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, 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, July 14, 2019 | 1:30 p.m. - 2:15 p.m. Sunday, August 4, 2019 | 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!

Canine Massage Workshop | Milwaukee Campus Friday, July 26, 2019 | 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.



Hoppy Hour | Milwaukee Campus Sunday, August 11, 2019 | 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. We hope to see you for this hoppin' good time!



TO REGISTER for a class, please visit:
wihumane.org/events-calendar