



Paws to Read

Quarterly Newsletter, Spring 2010

From the Director's Desk...

Greetings!

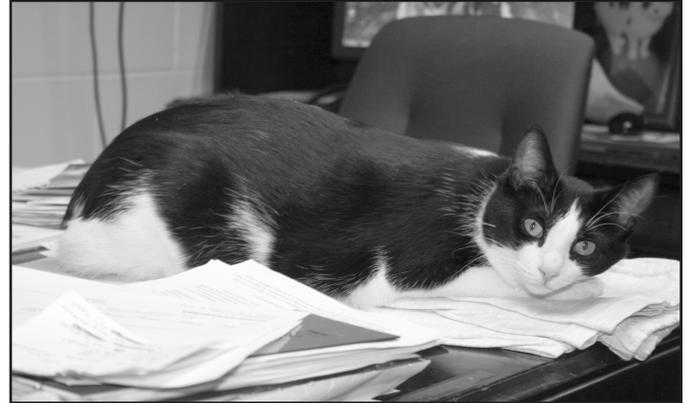
We hope that this newsletter finds you and your four-legged friends healthy and happy. Spring is in the air – summer is just around the corner – and this change in the weather always seems to bring with it a change in our spirits. At the Humane Society, you can see it in both people and animals.

Spring also brings with it a more discouraging fact: the number of animals coming in to the shelter will increase by leaps and bounds as kittens are born and dogs roam outdoors. Last year, over 500 animals were admitted between April 1 and August 1, 300 of them cats or kittens. You can imagine that, during these times, we are full to capacity and then some – I often say that we have cats everywhere but the bathrooms, and sometimes even there!

This brings me to a question that I'm asked by folks who visit the shelter, or when I'm out and about: "How long does the shelter keep its animals?" My abbreviated answer to that question is, "As long as it takes for them to be adopted." I'd like to expound on that answer here.

The Humane Society of Portage County abides by a policy that we and other shelters in Wisconsin call Adoption Guarantee. Every animal that comes to our shelter is assessed by behavioral and medical staff; we make decisions about the animal's future the same way we would about our own animals' lives. I invite you to think about the decisions you've had to make in your lifetime with regard to your pet: Is the animal in physical distress, with little or no hope of recovery? Does the animal have severe behavioral problems, making it a danger to people or other animals? HSPC believes that, in these cases, euthanasia is the humane means of ending the suffering of an animal, whether it be physical or emotional.

In all other cases – whether the animal be disabled, disfigured, old or "perfect" – we make every effort to find our animals their forever home. Our medical staff vaccinate, spay/neuter, and treat injuries and illnesses. Our animal care staff provide comfort by creating a clean, safe environment. All of our staff and volunteers address the animals' psychological needs with love, kindness and human companionship.



There is no time limit, no expiration date. Some of our animals find their homes in weeks or months, for others it may take over a year. If the animal is having trouble adjusting to a shelter setting or has special needs, it is moved to a foster home. If, after a period of time, there doesn't seem to be much interest in adopting a particular animal, we work with other shelters to transfer her to another facility. We will also transfer animals to and from other shelters if we or they have run out of space.

We pour our heart and soul into caring for our animals. We invest everything it takes to find that animal a family, no matter how long it takes.

So on we go, caring for all the animals that we can. My desk just gets messier as the days speed by ... on my desk in the photo above sits Besitos, named "little kisses" in Spanish because she sits on your lap, wraps her front legs around your neck and gives kisses. She can live with me forever, if that's the way the stars align. I'll keep her fed, safe, warm and happy.

Always,

Jen

Jennifer L. Blum
Executive Director



Visit us at 3200 Iber Lane, Plover (off Hwy. B across from Jay-Mar)



Top Ten Pet Poisons of 2009

With various dangers lurking in corners and cabinets, the home can be a minefield of poisons for our pets. Don't leave it up to Fido or Fluffy to keep themselves safe. Below is a list of the top 10 pet poisons that affected our furry friends in 2009.

Human Medications

For several years, human medications such as prescription and over-the-counter drugs including painkillers, cold medications, antidepressants and dietary supplements have been number one on the ASPCA's list of common hazards. Pets often snatch pill vials from counters and nightstands or gobble up medications accidentally dropped on the floor, so it's essential to keep meds tucked away in hard-to-reach cabinets.

Insecticides

In our effort to battle home invasions by unwelcome pests, we often unwittingly put our furry friend at risk with insecticides. One of the most common incidents involved the misuse of flea and tick products, such as applying the wrong topical treatment to the wrong species. It's always important to talk to your pet's veterinarian before beginning any flea and tick control program.

People Food

People food like grapes, raisins, avocado and products containing xylitol, like gum, can seriously disable our furry friends. One of the worst offenders – chocolate – contains large amounts of methylxanthines, which, if ingested in significant amounts, can cause vomiting, diarrhea, panting, excessive thirst, urination, hyperactivity, and in severe cases, abnormal heart rhythm, tremors and seizures.

Plants

Common houseplants such as azalea, rhododendron, sago palm, lilies, kalanchoe and schefflera are often found in homes and can be harmful to pets. Lilies are especially toxic to cats, and can cause life-threatening kidney failure even in small amounts.

Veterinary Medications

Even though veterinary medications are intended for pets, they're often misapplied or improperly dispensed by well-meaning pet parents. Animal-related preparations such as non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, heartworm preventatives, dewormers, antibiotics, vaccines and nutritional supplements can be harmful when misused.

Rodenticides

Many rat and mouse poisons contain inactive ingredients that are attractive to pets as well. Depending on the type of rodenticide, ingestions can lead to potentially life-threatening problems for pets including bleeding, seizures or kidney damage.

Household Cleaners

Everybody knows that household cleaning supplies can be toxic to adults and children, but few take precautions to protect their pets from common agents such as bleaches, detergents and disinfectants. These products, when inhaled by our furry friends, can cause serious gastrointestinal distress and irritation to the respiratory tract.

Heavy Metals

Heavy metals such as lead, zinc and mercury are a real danger. Lead is especially pernicious, and pets are exposed to it through many sources, including consumer products, paint chips, linoleum, and lead dust produced when surfaces in older homes are scraped or sanded.

Garden Products

It may keep your grass green, but certain types of fertilizer and garden products can cause problems for outdoor cats and dogs. Fertilizer exposure can cause severe gastric upset and possibly gastrointestinal obstruction.

Chemical Hazards

A category on the rise, chemical hazards – found in ethylene glycol antifreeze, paint thinner, drain cleaners and pool/spa chemicals – are a substantial danger to pets. Substances in this group can cause gastrointestinal upset, depression, respiratory difficulties and chemical burns.

Prevention is really key to avoiding accidental exposure, but if you suspect your pet has ingested something toxic, please contact your veterinarian or the Animal Poison Control Center's 24-hour hotline at (888) 426-4435.

HSPC Board of Directors

Lyne Kawleski, President
Nicki Gulan, Vice President
Bruce Schenk, Interim Treasurer
Kathy Davies, Secretary

Lorraine Avery	Bette Reko
Laurie Bandy	Dawn Roberts
Ann Barrett	Dennis Schenk
Paul Duquette	Stephanie Stokes
Linda Redfield	

Staff

Executive Director
Jennifer Blum

Animal Care Manager
Lissa Danforth

Kennel Manager
Lisa Sanchez

Adoption Coordinators
Sherry Tucker
Melissa Tucker

Receptionists
Amanda Haugh
Jenna Helminski

Humane Officers
Emily Carlson
Kira Steines
Amanda Wherritt

Animal Care Staff
Nikki Coulthurst
Jurrisa Landowski
Meghan Olson
Crystal Ostrowski
Brittany Siehr
Amanda Volkening
Amanda Wherritt

Special thanks to Spectra Print Corporation for donating
the design and printing of this newsletter

Wags to Wishes – Our 1st Annual Was a Huge Success!

Thanks to our donors and all those who attended, our 1st Annual Wags to Wishes event was a huge success! A special thanks to Team Schierl Companies for their platinum sponsorship, and to the following contributors:

Team Schierl Companies - Platinum Sponsor

Adventure 212
AIG/Travel Guard
Berry's Point Embroidery
Dan & Nancy Burns
Dr. Paul Cooper
Tara & Mike Cooper
James David - Mind Games
Designers II

Jean & Jerry Gadamus
Scott & Nicki Gulan
Caroyl Hart
Herrschners, Inc.
Jill & Jeff Jones
M Photography
Susan Martin
Michaels
Joe Pavelski
Pink Boutique

Bob & Bette Reko
Salon CTI, Appleton
Dana Schwartzman & Gary Hegewald
Peg & Dean Sively
Stevens Point Country Club
Stevens Point Vespa
UWSP Athletics
UWSP Men's Hockey
Jill Wittry

We're so sorry, Fur Ball donors ...

Human error reared its ugly head, and we inadvertently printed an inaccurate Fur Ball donor listing in our last newsletter. Our apologies, as well as our thanks to those who donated:

TEAM SCHIERL COMPANIES - PLATINUM SPONSOR

ADVENTURE 212
AL'S DINER
ALLEN SUPPLY COMPANY
AMY ROTH PHOTOGRAPHY
ANDREW'S LIMITED
ARBUCKLE'S EATERY
ART VILLAGE
ASSOCIATED BANK
SHARON BAUMER
SHELLEY BEHRENS
BELT'S SOFT SERVE
BIG APPLE BAGELS
BOOKFINDERS
BRODY DESIGNS
BURGER KING
CAMP BANDY
CENTRAL WATERS BREWERY
CENTRAL WISCONSIN CREDIT UNION
CHRISTIAN'S BISTRO
COMMUNITY ANIMAL HOSPITAL
THE COMPANION SHOP
SUZETTE CONLEY
CONTEMPORARY PHOTOGRAPHY
COOPER DENTAL
COOPER OIL COMPANY, INC.
CURVES
D&D AUTO, INC.
DAIRY QUEEN
DAN'S LIQUOR
DAVE'S BODY SHOP
DESIGNERS II
DIVEPOINT SCUBA CENTER
DOGGY TOYLAND
DOUG'S SPORTS PUB
ELIZABETH DRIFKA
BRIAN DUMLER
DUN-RITE CLEANERS
DURACLEAN SPECIALISTS
ECO-BUILDING & FORESTRY
EMY J'S
FAMILY VIDEO
FAZOLI'S
FINAL SCORE
DENNIS & PATTI FLANIGAN
JOHN & JULIE FORD
FRAMED ART FOR YOU
FURNITURE & APPLIANCE MART

JEAN & JERRY GADAMUS
DOLORES & VAL GLYTAS
GRAZIES ITALIAN GRILL
GREEN BAY PACKERS
SCOTT & NICKI GULAN
GUU'S ON MAIN
H&R BLOCK
HAMPTON INN
HEALING GARDEN
CHARLOTTE HENSLER
HERRSCHNERS, INC.
HILLTOP PUB & GRILL
JILL HINCKLE
JAMES HOM, DDS
JAMIE & BRIAN HOUGHTON
HUDSON'S
JACK OF ALL TRADES
DARCY JARMAN
JIMMY JOHN'S
JR LIQUOR
JUST CRUISIN' TRAVEL
JUST WIRED
KIM'S BARREL INN
KLISMITH ACCOUNTING
KOERTEN GALLERY
DAVE & MARY KONOPACKI
LEE AYERS JEWELERS
LIBERTY TAX
LOTUS HEALING ARTS
LYNN'S GREENHOUSE
MCDONALD'S
MENARD'S
MID-STATE LOCK & SAFE
MILWAUKEE BREWERS
MILWAUKEE BUCKS
MILWAUKEE ADMIRALS
JIM NOONAN, ATTORNEY
OAKVIEW MEDICAL CENTER
PAT OKRAY
OLYMPIC FAMILY RESTAURANT
PAGLIARA FAMILY
PAPA MURPHY'S PIZZA
PARKWAY BAR
PEACEFUL PINES MEMORIALS, INC.
LORI PECHINSKI
PETCO
GREG PEZI
PINE VALLEY GOLF COURSE
PINERIES BANK

PINK BOUTIQUE
PIONEER BANK
POINT AFTER PUB
POINT BREWERY
PORTAGE COUNTY GAZETTE
ERIN PRAIS-HINTZ
R STORE
RAINBOW CASINO
CATHY RATTLE
DAWN ROBERTS
ROBERTS IRRIGATION COMPANY
ROBIN'S NEST GIFTS
ROGANS SHOES
CAROL RUSSEL
DENNIS SCHENK
DANA SCHWARTZMAN & GARY HEGE-
WALD
JEANETTE SCHWERBEL
SENTRYWORLD SPORTS CENTER
SEVENTH HEAVEN SALON
SHIPPY SHOES
SIGN PRO
SILVER COACH
SKIPP'S BOWLING
SKY CLUB
SLUMBERLAND
SMALL SPACE BIG STYLE
SPORTS CLIPS
STARBUCKS
STEVENS POINT ANIMAL HOSPITAL
STEVENS POINT AREA CONVENTION &
VISITORS BUREAU
STEVENS POINT COUNTRY CLUB
STUDIO 2827
STUDIO SALON
SUGAR 3
SUNFLOWER STUDIO
TACO BELL
TARGET
TIARAH DAY SPA
TRENDSETTERS ACT II
UW-MADISON ATHLETICS
UWSP ATHLETICS
WADDELL & REED FINANCIAL ADVISORS
SHANNON WILLIAMS
WISCONSIN RIVER GOLF CLUB
YMCA



The Humane Society of Portage County and TEAM SCHIERL COMPANIES
invite you to



A Community Event for Animals to benefit the HSPC



JUNE 27, 2010 - 11 AM to 1 PM
PIFFNER PIONEER PARK
1.5 mile walk begins at 11 AM
[Registration at 10:30 AM]



Sponsored By:



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

Dogs and their owners are invited to participate in PAWty in the PARK. Registration for the walk at 10:30 AM, walk at 11 AM. 11 AM - 1.5 mile Walk For the Animals 12:30 PM - Pet Fashion Show & Costume Contest

THROUGHOUT THE DAY:

Create memorable canvassed art-work with your dog
Affordable micro-chip clinic • Music
All-Paws-on-Deck for the Splish-Splash-Bath
Doggie Demonstrations • Other entertainment
Food and beverages available for purchase

- Walk Held Rain or Shine
- Walk With or Without a Pet!
- Dogs Must be on a Leash and Current on Vaccinations
- Collect Pledges and Win Great Prizes!

DAY OF "PAWty in the PARK":

Bring your completed pledge form with your donations. All walkers that raise \$25 or more will receive a free lunch from Subway!



EASY WAYS TO SIGN UP:

Go to our website at: www.hspcwi.org and print brochure, sign up in person at the shelter, or show up on the day of the walk.

RAISE & WIN GREAT PRIZES:

Ask friends, family, coworkers and neighbors to pledge. Remember to ask if their employers have matching gift programs. If so, you may be able to double your pledges and receive more great prizes! All pledges and personal donations are tax deductible.

Turn in your pledges at the event and pick up your incentive items and your free lunch ticket. Incentive items will not be available prior to event day. Make sure your name is on all pledge forms and checks so you'll receive credit for your pledges. All prizes will be awarded based on money turned in on or before June 27, 2010.

PLEDGE LEVEL PRIZES:

<p>\$25 WATER BOTTLE</p> 	<p>\$50 T-SHIRT</p> 	<p>\$100 TOTE BAG</p> 
<p>\$250 STAINLESS TRAVEL MUG</p> 	<p>\$500 UNDER ARMOUR PULLOVER</p> 	<p>\$1,000 IPOD NANO OR NINTENDO DSI</p> 



THE ANIMALS ARE COUNTING ON YOU TO HELP THEM!

I Can't Attend PAWty in the PARK, But I Want to Help!

My Donation: \$25 \$50 \$100 \$500 \$1,000 Other \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

I REALLY WANT TO HELP
send me a volunteer application!
 Please email updates to me
for PAWty in the Park

Mail to: Humane Society of Portage County
3200 Iber Lane, Plover, WI 54467

REGISTRATION INFORMATION:

Walker: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Waiver: In consideration of my signing this agreement, I hereby for myself, my heirs and administrators assume any and all risks associated with the Walk for the Animals & PAWty in the PARK. I waive and release any and all rights and claims for damages which I may have against the organizers, The Humane Society of Portage County, Inc. and any others connected with this event, their representatives, successors and assigns for any and all injuries or damages of any kind whatsoever suffered by me as a result of taking part in the Walk for the Animals & PAWty in the Park and any related activities.

Signature _____ Date _____

Parent or Guardian's Signature (If Under 18) _____ Age (If Under 18) _____

PLEDGES:

Name	Phone	Amount Pledged	Amount Received
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
11.			
12.			
13.			
14.			
15.			
TOTAL			



Sherry's Story

Life Is Not Always Easy

I can remember the first day of my life. I learned to chase my sisters and brother around my mama's head. Mama would gently lick us and sweep us to her to eat. The milk was warm and sweet. I would fall asleep and wake up with milk in my mouth. There was a warm breeze and I felt so happy. I think we lived under people. I would hear them walk over the top of us, but never saw them.

My siblings and I would play for hours. Blacky was bigger than me. He had long white whiskers and a very short tail. Mama said he was special. My sisters looked like me. Mama watched us clean ourselves and told us we were like beautiful gems - we sparkled. Days and nights were usually the same. One day we went out to play in the sunshine. Mama stayed close by and told us what to do and not to do. The neighbors had a dog and Blacky got too close. Blacky never came home to us again. Mama cried a lot.

The days got shorter and Mama got tired of keeping food in our tummies so she went out in search of food. We waited for a long time in the dark, but she never returned home so I went out to find her. I looked under our favorite tree, next to the old metal thing with big round hills under it. I even went close to the house where Blacky left. Tired, I decided to get back to my sisters. When I made it home they were gone.

Not knowing what to do, I curled up and dreamt of my mother, brother and sisters. I don't know how long I had been asleep when something grabbed me by the scruff. I fought as hard as my weak body would let me, just like Mama taught us. The way Blacky fought before he lay motionless by the big dog. This person took me in its area and fed me. I couldn't eat because I was so stricken with fear. Everyday she came into this room to pet me and feed me. For the first time in a long time I felt safe. I even had sun in the room like when I was with Mama. Soon I had a whole house to play in. Even plants like outside which are very tempting for a cat.

A man moved into our house with my lady, she called him her man friend. When my lady wasn't around the man was very mean to me. He would hurt me with his body. I think you call it a foot? I would watch for it and hide when he came close. I didn't understand why he wanted to hurt me, he is so much bigger. Sometimes I cried at night because of the pain in my stomach.

One day the man grabbed me and took me with him into the large metal thing with hills. It moved very fast and I was scared. I didn't know what was going to happen. Where is my lady? She would never do this to me. I felt cold, then the man threw me out of the metal thing. My body hit the ground so hard that I couldn't breath. My legs hurt so bad, I felt cold and couldn't move. I saw more metal things pass by me very fast. Too weak to do anything else, I went to sleep.

This is as far as I can tell my story. My fate was in the hands of humans ...

If this kitten's mother had been spayed, maybe he wouldn't have been left to die in a ditch. Be responsible for these little lives that have no control over what happens to them. The average cat has 1-8 kittens per litter and 2-3 litters per year. More than 35,000 kittens are born in the U.S. each year. This particular story is from the view of kitten, but easily could be a puppy. Spaying or neutering is the responsible thing to do.

This kitten's story has a happy ending. A good Samaritan picked him up off of Route 66 and took him to the Humane Society of Portage County where he was warm, fed, safe and loved by many. He then went to a new lifelong home. He now spends his time in a sunny window and is loved by his new family. He feels safe again!

There is an alarming association between people who torture, abuse and kill animals, and those torture, abuse and kill their spouses and/or partners, children and the elderly. The abusers seek to control the animals they abuse and likewise want to control the people that they abuse. According to the Humane Society of the United States, "a 1997 survey of 50 of the largest shelters for battered women in the United States found that 85% of women and 63% of children entering [these] shelters discussed incidents of pet abuse in the family." Imagine what those numbers are today.

**My life is measured by how I was loved.
Not by the time I was loved.**

Sherry Tucker (Adoption Coordinator)

**Adopt A
PET**

Adopt before you shop...
Help save a life!

Spay/Neuter Sponsor Donation Form

Please cut and return with your donation to the Humane Society

name _____
address _____ city _____ state _____ zip _____
email address _____ phone _____
donation \$ _____

circle one: **dog** **cat** **either is fine!**

If you'd like to add a personal message (such as birthday, in memory, or in honor of) please write the message below.

For office use only:

- ◇ cage card confirmation
- ◇ picture
- ◇ letter sent/thank you

Top Three Reasons

It helps to reduce our tremendous companion animal overpopulation problem. The surplus is in the millions in the United States. Cats are 45 times as prolific, and dogs 15 times as prolific, as humans. They do not need our help to expand their numbers; they need our help to reduce their numbers until there are good homes for them all.

Sterilization will increase your pet's chance of a longer and healthier life. Altering your feline will add three to five years. Altered animals have a very low to no risk of mammary gland tumors/cancer, prostate cancer, perianal tumors, and uterine, ovarian and testicular cancers.

Sterilizing your cat or dog makes your pet a better companion, reducing its urge to roam and decreasing the risk of contracting disease or getting injured as it roams. Intact males living outside have been shown to live, on average, less than two years.



DONATE YOUR TIME

We are always in need of loyal, kind-hearted volunteers to help with animal care and socialization, general cleaning, kennel cleaning, fundraising and special events. Groups can also help in many different ways. Call us at 715-344-6012, or stop by and fill out a volunteer application.

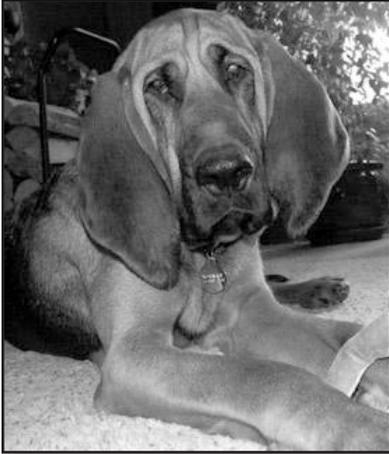


Happy Tails



If you have recently adopted a pet, please send your happy story for "Happy Tails" and a picture of your pet and we will try to place it in our newsletter. For quality pictures, please send a digital photo to the shelter - sherry.tucker@hspcwi.org - or a high quality hard copy with your letter.

Please remember ... your best friend is only a shelter away!



Hi Everyone -

I just wanted to send you an update on the bloodhound I adopted from you in December, who has lovingly been renamed Norman.

First of all, I am so thankful that I was able to adopt him - he has brought so much joy into my life! He is such a comedian, and is always making me laugh. He is so sweet and good with people and other dogs. I've started taking him to the dog park with his new female bloodhound friend, named Ella, who belongs to a friend of mine. He loves to run with the other dogs and sniff everything!! He and Ella are best friends and mimic each other, and sometimes encourage each other to follow every one of their bloodhound instincts (i.e. getting into everything!) But they're so fun. I met another bloodhound owner today, and we're going to have a play date soon!



Norman is kennel trained, which is great for us both, and has learned how to sit, shake and lay down. He is progressing very well in learning to heel on the leash. He's a very well-mannered dog except, of course, if I accidentally leave something delicious smelling in the kitchen. He'll then try to investigate, but who can really blame him? We go for long walks every day, and I often get compliments on my "gorgeous bloodhound" from people passing us by. My roommates love him, and so does everyone who meets him!

I've included some pictures I took of Norman over Christmas. He loves my parents' golden retriever, and is great with all three of their cats!

Thanks again for my beautiful dog!

Take care,

Katherine

We're just sending a few pictures your way, as promised. We wanted to say thank you - Hetty has been a GREAT addition to our family! She is a very sweet cat, and never lets you forget she is there!

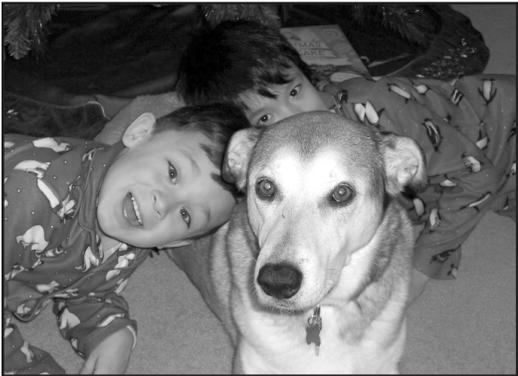
Thanks again!

Scott, Jessica, Dallas & Kaytlyn





Happy Tails



Happy Tails – Lucy (Darla)

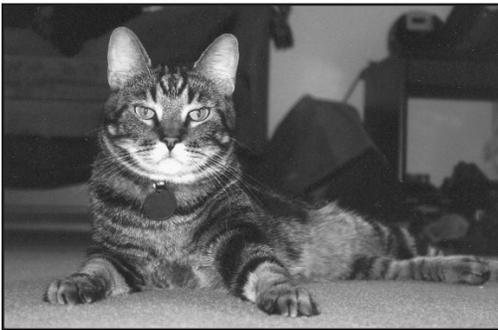
I'm writing to give you an update on Lucy (formerly Darla). She is settling in with us wonderfully. As you can see from the photos, she and the boys are getting along fabulously. The cats (Nitro and Chance, formerly Chaz) have decided that she can stay, and I'm sure that soon we'll be able to send photo evidence of that as well. They're already sleeping within a few feet of each other during the day, and aside from the occasional eating of each others' food, are coexisting peacefully.

Thanks for all of your help adding Lucy to our family.

Jen



To the wonderful people at the Humane Society of Portage County:



Hi! Salem the cat here, just writing to you from my new home! It's been over three months since I left your facility and came to live in my new home with my new family so I thought I would write and let you know how I'm doing.

I must say that I've adjusted to my new life pretty well. I love my new home. It's not very big but mom lets me go anywhere I want (except the bathroom – something about me chewing her shower curtain but personally I don't see what the big deal is.)

I love to go outside! Last summer my mom would put on my harness and leash and take me outside every single day. I would just roll around on the nice warm concrete and play in the grass.

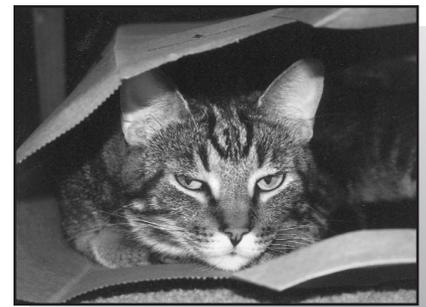
Sometimes I would forget that I had the leash on – once I almost tipped overmom's hammock chasing a squirrel (whoops!).

I have also adjusted well to my new responsibilities. I have two jobs here. The first is official greeter where I run to the door to greet anyone who comes in. I leave my best greetings for mom, though, especially when she comes home from work at night.

My second job is being mom's alarm clock. I kind of took this one upon myself seeing as mom didn't think she needed one. Every morning I wake her up with either a gentle pat, pat, pat on the face, pawing at her hair or, her least favorite, a cold nose on the face. Sometimes I do all three and I always do it with a nice, loud purr. Although she doesn't always agree with the time I pick (she still can't understand why she should be up at 6:00 a.m.), she does think that it's a much nicer way to wake up in the morning, with someone who just can't wait for you to wake up.

So thank you. Thank you for caring for me in my time of need and thank you even more for letting mom adopt me. We will both remember your kindness to me – always.

Salem (and mom Becky)



All About Cats!



To Declaw Or Not To Declaw

Declawing is an excruciatingly painful surgery that can permanently disable a cat, as well as put it at risk for medical problems and severe psychological trauma.

A Serious Surgery

Declawing a cat is not the same as trimming its nails. Because the claw is tightly attached to the bone, some bone in the cat's paw actually has to be removed. Basically, removing a claw requires an operation similar to amputating the third digit of a human finger.

A Miserable Recovery

A declawed cat, which has basically suffered ten amputations, will not be able to lie still or sit in a wheelchair for its recuperation. It must walk around on its severely injured and painful feet in order to eat, groom and use the litter box. Although cats tend to be stoic about pain and suffer in silence, they certainly suffer. Pain experienced when trying to dig in kitty litter may cause the cat to go on the floor or the furniture instead.

Permanent Vulnerability

If a declawed cat ever manages to get outside, it is vulnerable to attack. It cannot defend itself or even climb a tree to escape. Thus, the declawed cat is permanently vulnerable and endangered.

Medical Complications and Health Risks

Declawing can cause secondary tendon contracture, which makes walking uncomfortable. Additionally, because they are missing the third joints of their paws, declawed cats tend to shift their weight to their hindquarters, which can create balance problems and lead to atrophy of front quarter muscles. The lack of balance is extremely upsetting for a cat, which relies on balance in everything it does. Some cats also suffer nerve damage or even permanent paralysis as a result of the procedure.

Some Alternatives to Declawing

- Provide a tall, sturdy and heavy scratching post that you occasionally sprinkle with catnip.
- When selecting your household furniture, find closely woven and smooth fabrics. Cats have a hard time piercing tightly woven materials, and find smooth fabrics less enticing than

rougher surfaces.

- If acclimated to being handled, cats will eventually tolerate or even enjoy having their nails trimmed on a regular basis. It is important to work this into their routine as a positive activity, not as a punishment for scratching. Consult your vet for instructions.
- Until your cat learns the proper locations for scratching (scratchers, toys, etc.), cover unprotected furniture with aluminum foil, double-sided tap or other materials that give him pause. Many pet supply stores have materials that will help with this.
- When playing with a cat or kitten, it is important to never use your hand or individual fingers as playthings. This teaches the cat that people are toys and she or he may scratch to play.
- Each time your cat scratches you intentionally, say "OWW" and leave his or her presence. This provides an incentive to stop scratching if they wish to play with you.
- When you find him using the scratchers, praise him like you would your canine friend. Positive reinforcement is everything. If he doesn't use the right item, don't scream, hit or throw things. This will only frighten or confuse him. Remember, positive reinforcement is everything. Praise, praise and more praise.

It's Easy to Train a Cat to use a Scratching Post!

- Place the post in a room where the cat spends a lot of time. Cats often like to stretch and scratch when they wake up from a nap.
- To introduce the post to your cat, try using catnip as a lure for older cats. (Kittens under 2 months of age may be repelled by catnip.) Rub the catnip onto the post and call the cat over to the post.
- Scratch your nails along the surface of the post. This will help your cat learn where to scratch.
- After your cat begins to scratch, praise her and give her a treat. Small kittens can be trained to climb the post by showing them the food treat and then placing it on top of the post.
- If your cat has already been scratching a piece of furniture, place the post directly in front of it. Scratching is a territorial marking behavior.
- Temporarily cover the previously scratch after with a few strips of double sided carpet tape or a piece of contact paper. This will help redirect your cat's scratching activities to the post.

Litterbox Problems Can Be Prevented

#1 Have your cat spayed



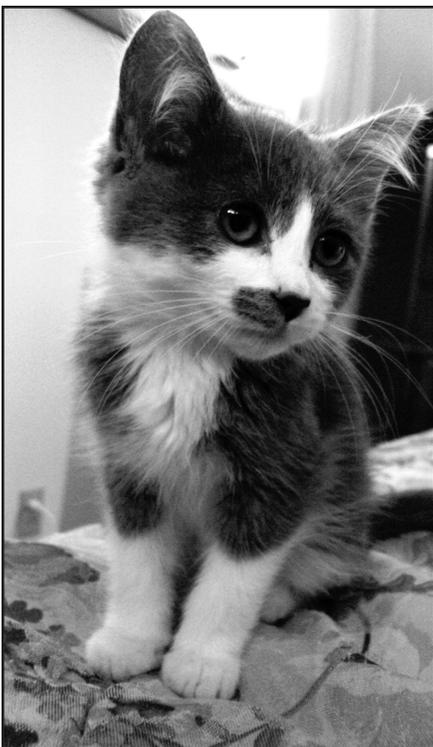
or neutered by six months of age. Sexually mature, intact cats frequently use urine and fecal marking to indicate their territory. Neutering will correct 90% of elimination problems.

#2 The rule of thumb for the number of litter boxes is one per cat in the household, plus one. Extra litterboxes are necessary because some cats like to defecate in one and urinate in another. Others will not use a box that has already been soiled or used by another cat.



#3 Clean the litterboxes DAILY. The single most common reason for a cat's refusal to use a litterbox is because the box is dirty. Non-clumping litter should be scooped daily and the litterbox emptied and washed every other day. Clumping litter should also be scooped daily and the litterboxes washed when soiled.

#4 Choose a litter that appeals to the cat. Most cats prefer the texture of the sand-like scooping litters. Be sure to choose a brand that clumps into a firm ball, making scooping easier and cleaner. As a health precaution for young kittens that might be prone to ingest the litter, use a nonclumping litter until the kitten is four months old.



#5 Do not use litterbox liners - they can be irritating to some cats. Also covered or hooded litterboxes may be offensive to some cats. Be sure the litterbox is not too small for your cat. The minimum size for a litterbox is 22" x 16".

#6 Place litterboxes in quiet, private places that are easily accessible to the cat and where it will not be disturbed by children or ambushed by other pets. Noisy areas near washing machines, furnaces, or under stairs may frighten the cat away from the box. A house with several stories should have a litterbox on each floor. NEVER place litterboxes near food and water dishes.

#7 While kittens have an innate predisposition to use loose material as their litter, they may also choose other locations. You should limit their territory until they learn that the litterbox is the only acceptable place for elimination. Praise and rewards will speed up the learning process. Like small children, they should not be expected to travel very far to find their toilet areas.

#8 When introducing a new cat into the home, confine the cat to one room with its litterbox, bed, food and water, until the cat has used the litterbox several times and shows an interest in exploring the rest of the house.

#9 Help your cat feel comfortable in his own home and territory. Play games with him, give him a massage, talk to him frequently. Give him positive and affectionate attention. A confident, secure, contented and relaxed cat does not need to relieve anxiety and stress by such extreme measures as urine or fecal marking.

#10 A few cats simply seem to have peculiar litterbox preferences. Some like smooth or soft surfaces and will often use the bathtub or the floor next to the litterbox. Declawed cats often have a reputation for doing this. Try offering the cat an empty litterbox or one lined only with newspaper.

**🐾 Please Neuter & Spay 🐾
It's The Humane Way!**



Donations - November 1-February 28

ABILITY CENTERS INC
ALLISON BORCHARDT
ANDERSON CHARLES
ANDERSON DAVID & PATRICIA
ANDERSON KARLA
ANDERSON KIMBERLY
ANDERSON PATRICIA
AURORA HEALTH CARE
BABIASH CARRIE
BACH KIMBERLEE
BAKER BRYAN
BARRETT TOM
BAUMER SHARON
BAYER HEALTH
BECK TOM
BEGGS ZACHARY
BEIGHLEY DANIEL & JODY
BERGH PAUL & SUE
BERGMANN DANIELLE
BERNA RICHARD & SARA
BERNSTEIN ABBEY
BERTLING JUDY
BESTUL EVELYN
BIESEK JERED
BILLINGS VICTORIA & JOHN
BLOMFELT DIANE
BONNELL HENRY
BORCHARDT KELLY & CRAIG
BOSSELAIT NATASHA
BROCKWAY CARL & HELEN
BRODY DESIGNS LLC
BROWN JENNIFER
BRYZA WILLIAM & DEBORAH
BUBLITZ RYAN & BRANDY
BUCK ANN
BUCK GAIL
BUCK JIM & MARILYN
BURNS DANIEL & NANCY
BURSKY GLENDA
CALDER GLEN & GLENDA
CALDERON ELISABETH
CASEY SAMANTHA
CASIMIR BOOSTER 4 H CLUB
CENTRAL WISCONSIN ANIMAL
EMERGENCY CENTER
CHAPPEL DIANE & JANET
CLARK RISHARDA & MICHAEL
CLEMONS CRAIG & MARY
CLINT ROBERT & KELLY
CLIVEN JIM & NORMA
COCA COLA BOTTLING COMPANY
COLRUD GAIL
COMMUNITY ANIMAL HOSPITAL
COON EARL & ROSE
CORNWELL JOAN
COSH DARLENE
COULTHURST MIKE & RUTH
CRUZ MIGUEL & PAMELA
CZAIKOWSKI MICHAEL
CZERWINSKI DAVID
DAHMS CONNIE & HARRY
DAVY KEVIN
DENNIS MICHEAL
DIX RAYMOND
DOMKE DUANE & JOYCE
DOUGLAS PAM
DOUMA LISA & TODD
DUESSING JULEE & WILLIAM
DUGGAN DONOVAN & ASHLEY
DUNBAR AMANDA
DUNLAP JANE
DUNLAP ROY & JANE
DUNN KAREN
DZIAK DEB
EDWARD J OKRAY FOUNDATION
INC

EHRFURTH KEITH & ANGIE
EITHUN LORI
ELLINGSON TAMMIE
EMMERT HEIDIMARIE
ERICKSEN JERRY & JOETTE
ERNST SHANNON
EUER A. CHRISTINE
EULER NANCY
FALK ROBIN
FASULA JENNIFER
FEENSTRA JAYMIE
FELDMAN TRISH
FERLO ANGELA
FIRKUS TRACY
FORTHCOMING DANSPACE
FRAZER-COLLINS WILLIAM &
AMANDA
FRONTIER RESTURANT
FUGIASCO JAMES & SHIRLEY
FULTON ELIZABETH
FURO DEMEYER ROSEMARY
GADBOIS RACHAEL & JON
GARR DONNA & PHILLIP
GIFFORD JAMES & BARB
GIFFORD ROBERT
GIRL SCOUT TROUP 611
GLASS STEVEN
GLISCZINSKI THERESA
GLODOWSKI SUE
GOLLA JESSICA
GOLZ RANDY
GRAETZ MARJORIE
GREEN/SUHR CHARLES & EMILY
GRISBY STEPHEN
GROSS KATHLEEN
HABADA STEPHANIE
HAFNER ANNETTE
HAGEN JOANNE
HANSEL IZZIE
HANSEN KIMBERLY
HANSON KELLY
HARDERS ROBERT & KATHLEEN
HARRIS LARRY & DONNA
HART CYNTHIA
HARTZHEIM WAYNE & MARILYN
HARVATH DAVID & BETH
HAUGH JAMIE
HECKEL JUDY
HEIN CODY
HELBACH MECHAEAL
HELBACH MIKE & DEBRA
HELM RICK
HENDRICKS PETER
HENDRIX JENNIFER
HENSLER RONALD & CHARLOTTE
HERMAN DAN
HERMAN MICHELLE
HERSHEY EUGENE
HESLYN MENADUE
HESS MICHAEL & TAMMY
HIBBE HARLAN SR
HILL JANET
HILL NICHOLE
HINCKLE JILL
HINTZ LARRY & VICKI
HINTZ MADISON
HOESER LISA & DAVE
HOLTMEIER SHIRLEY
HOLY BEN & CHRISTIN
HOPFENSBERGER SHERI
HOUCK ROBERT & JEANETTE
HOUSE CALLS OF MENOMONIE
INC
HUGILL CARLA
HUISHEERE STEVE & NORMA
HUNT JEFF

HYTRY JULL
INMAN CHRISTINE
IOLA OLD CAR SHOW
JAKUBIAK MARSHA
JANZ JAMES & RITA
JARMAN BRETT & DARCY
JARVI GERALD
JAY MAR
JEFFERSON SCHOOL
JENSEN ROBERT
JEWN PIEPER
JEZWINSKI JERRY & KATHY
JIRIKOWIC SARAH
JOHANSON BRUCE
JOHNSON JOHNNY
JOHNSON RITA
JONES EDWARDS
JUAREZ BRIANNA
JUHNIKE ROLAND
JUNG JUDY
KAEPPEL SCOTT
KAMPSCHOER MARY
KAWSKI AUDREY
KEEN DAVID
KEEN PAM
KEMNETZ DAWN
KENNEDY CHARMAINE & TIMOTHY
KILCOYNE ROBERT
KIMBALL DEBBIE
KIMPEL KENNETH & CHERYL
KING ADAM
KING KAREN
KING MANDY
KING RYAN
KINGSTON SCOTT
KIRSHLING DONALD & JOAN
KIRSTEATTER LANE & ANGELA
KJOME AMANDA & KYLE
KLEIN DEB
KLEIN ELIZABETH
KLIMMER SHEILA
KNAPP SANDRA
KNOPPA STEPHANIE
KNOWLTON ROBERT
KOBACK KANDIS
KOLDEN DARYNDA
KOPECKO PETER
KOPPLIN DONALD & CAROL
KORDAS KRISTI
KOSMOSKI ROBERT & VIRGINIA
KOTH STEVE & BETSY
KRIESE KIMBERLY
KRONSTEDT LINDA
KRZYKOWSKI BRENDA
KURZINSKI JENNIFER
KUZINSKI JOSH & RACHEL
KWIK TRIP INC
LABARRE CASEY & BOBBIE
LANDOWSKI JURRISA
LASSA KATIE
LATTIMER CHAD
LECHNER TINA
LEINDECKER LINDA
LESNIAK AMY
LEWANDOWSKI VICKI
LEWIS NEIL
LIEBAU MARY
LINDAHL MANDY & TODD
LINJER-LIAZUK CODY
LISA BEILKE
LISACK THOMAS & NANCY
LOEWE MICHELLE
LUCHT MATT
MACDONALD BARB & ROBERT
MACEWICZ CHRIS
MALLICK JOHN

MANDLER DIANE
MANSFIELD ELLEN & KEN
MARQUARDT STEPHEN
MARQUART KATJA
MARTIN MICHAEL & BECKY
MCCLLOUD KATHY
MCHINLEY PATRICK & DIANA
MCINTEE RODNEY & JEAN
MCKENZIE EVA
MCKINLEY SCHOOL
MCKINNEY DEB
MCMANUS CARA
MCQUEEN SCOTT
MEDDAUGH SHIRLEY
MEER BARB
MENZER DAVID & MANDIE
MERIAL
MEYER AMY
MEYER CHRIS
MILLER JULIE
MOHR JEAN
MONJE JUDY
MOON IKSOON
MORASCH PEGGY
MORELL SHARON
MOUNTAIN JAIME
MOZUCH HELEN
MUELLER MICHAEL
MUGGLI-GRONNA DANIELA
MURPHY MICHAEL
NEKOLNY NICOLE
NELSON JAMIE
NETZEL SUSAN
NIKOLA AMANDA
NOEL PATTY & JOHN
NORDBERG CHRISTINE
NYS STEPHANIE
O'DONNELL/LEEK/KATNER/TEWARI
OLESKY MADELIN
OLESKY MADELINE
OMERNIK JAN
ORLEY CRYSTAL
OSTER JOHN & MARY
OSWALD CHUCK & BETTY
OVERACKER DENNIS
OVINGTON CLAUDIA & RICHARD
PAGEL MATT
PAULSON NICK
PAVELSKI AMANDA
PESANKA PHILIP & LEEANNE
PETCO
PETERS MARY
PETERSEN AMBER & NICK
PETERSEN MICHELLE
PETERSON TIFFANY
PETRUS BEN
PFIZER FOUNDATION MATCHING
GIFT PROGRAM
PJ JACOBS JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
PLOVER CLOVERS
PLOVER WHITING SCHOOLS -
2ND GRADE
POWELL JESSICA
RADKE MICHELLE
RADOMSKI HAYLEY
RADTKE DAVID & DAWN
RADTKE DOUGLAS & MARCY
RAUSCH ROBERT
RENC DANIEL & ANNE
RENDMEISTER DEREK
RITZ JULIE
RITZKI KATHLEEN
ROACH NORMAN
ROCHA- WORZALLA DENISE
ROHR BOBBI
ROSENTHAL JOHN

ROSHOLT ELEMENTARY PTO
SADOUSKAS MICHELE
SALOUN JULIE
SALZMANN ARLENE
SANDERS LINDA
SANDMANN DARLENE
SAWYER JULIE
SAWYER TANYA & KELLY
SCHIFERL ADAM
SCHIPPER JANET
SCHLEIFER MELISSA
SCHOLLER TOM
SCHROEDER TODD
SCHUBRING ROXANNE
SCHUH ERIN
SCHULTZ-WORTH CINDY
SCHWANN DAVID
SCOFIELD KYLE
SHAPLINSKI SEAN
SHIER WILLIAM JR
SHULFER SUE
SIGMAN ROSE ANN
SIMON GINGER
SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH
SLEMBARSKI JOSEPH
SLOWINSKI JAN
SMITH CINDY & JERRY
SOIK BONNIE

SOISET CHERYL
SPAAR ROSE & CHARLIE
SPANGLER VERLAN
SPEICH KEVIN & KARI
SPRANGER ELIZABETH
SPREDA KATHY
ST JOES ECC
STASHEK MITCHELL & MARILYN
STEAD KELLY
STELTENPOHL DOUG & CINDY
STEVENS POINT AREA
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS
STEVENS POINT AREA EDUCATION
ASSOCIATION
STEVENS POINT AREA SENIOR
HIGH SCHOOL
STEVENS POINT RETIRED
TEACHERS
STEVENS POINT U.U. FELLOWSHIP
STONE DANIELLE
STORLIE DAWN
STRAUB SANDI
STREMER CARRIE & ERIC
STRIKE ARIC
STROIK FRED JR & ANN
STUDINSKI JAN
STUDINSKI REBECCA
SUOMI RORY JOANNE

SYBELDON SCOTT & THERESA
SZYMANSKI RAQUEL
SZYMANSKI SARAH
TAVES SPENCER
TEAM SCHIERL COMPANIES
TESCHNER CAROL & TOM
TEWS EDWARD
THURNAU LINDA
TIMOTHY MUELLER
TOWN BRIDGE CLUB
TRIERWEILER JAN
TRYBULL TRACY
TUCKER SHERRY
TULLY STEPHEN & JUDY
TURNER MARY & EMILY & SARAH
US BANK
USA CURLING
UWSP UNIVERSITY STORE &
TEXT RENTAL
VAN GRINSVEN DEANNA
VAN SCHYNDEL CRAIG
VAN TASSEL JESSE
VANDIEN JILL
VEUM MICHAEL
VILLARREAL CHRIS
VOGT JEREMY & BROOK
WABINDATO BELLA
WAKLEE LEANNE

WALDER KIM
WARNER DOUGLAS & SANDRA
WARNER HEATHER
WAYERSKI ADAM
WEBB STEPHANIE
WEINA DEBRA
WELTY LISA
WHITE EAGLE MARLA
WIEDL JULIE
WILCOX RICH & JILL
WILKINSON KURT
WISCONSIN TAVERN LEAGUE
FOUNDATION INC
WITTE ROBERT
WOJTALEWICZ DOROTHY
WOLLE JIM
WOYAK JENNY
WOYAK-FLISAKOWSKI JENNIFER
WUETHRICH ELIZABETH
YADCHITZ ANN & WILLIAM
ZABAWA MATHEW & CINDY
ZELESKI KENNETH
ZELINSKI STACY
ZIMMER KAREN & JOE
ZUNKER DORALENE

November 1-February 28

In Memory Of ...

Betty Carribeau from: Ben Benaszkeski
Alexandria "Sandy" Cera from: Joseph & Evelyn Cera, Robert & Lorna Winn
Chelsey the cocker spaniel from: Gregory & Francis Clark
Donald James Chriske from: Lindie Landin, Patricia Glennon, Sue Skalski
Lillian Curless from: John & Gary Curless family & friends, Lynda & Thomas Schrader
Deb Dziak from: Troy & Debra Aeby, Mary Ann Baird, Lynn & William Benn, John & Christine Bierman, Scott & Joan Brueggen, Christine Carpenter, Steven & Lori Courtney, Kristin & Joseph Dragan, Renee & Michael Drummond, Cathy Dziak, Terry Dziak, Michelle Firkus, Richard & Patricia Jauch, Deb & Kent Klein, Christopher & Elizabeth Knotts, Marvin & Gail Koss, Tom & Lori Kubala, Melvin & Beverly McDonnough, Eric & Ann Moen, Shelley Pezewski, Maria & Leo Phelps, Scott Schweinfurth, Jeannette Schwerbel, Keith & Karin Sieg, Karen Splitt, Carol Walther, Jan Wied, Judith Zdroik
Kat A Rina & Jenny Purr from: Marie Edberg
Randy Koback from: Sentry Insurance
Lucy from: Jane Hendricks
Clark Pagel from: Eldean Walling
Greg Hurrish from: Mary Hurrish
Lorraine Pasdo from: *Rose Barbers*
Virgil Polum from: Mary & Steven Gonske, Robert & Nancy Jaeger, Alison & Gary Mullins, Robert & Ruth Smiley, Dale & Yvonne Tinklenberg
Dorothy Lee Van Nuys from: Robert Van Nuys
Pauline Wallerman from: Sherrilee Wallerman
Ken Ward from: Ambulatory Surgical Center of Stevens Point, Larry & Susan Dozrude, Kathleen Retzki, Steven & Renee Smith, Alan & Karen Treziabowski, Bernice Ward, Charles & Jan Woodward
Faith Weller from: Gary Bassett, Jacqueline & Terry Bienek, Rod & Ann Dickens, Julie & Paul Hladky, Carol & Michael Hinrichs, Lisa Huber, Thomas & Barbara Lemke, Celeste Paugel, Daniel & Koren Kopp, Rebecca Olson, Mary Jo Patton, Lynda Pilot, Sally Prideaux, Katherine Saunders, Susan Shikowski, Karolyn & Samuel Solberg, Tricia Souder, Swing Doctors, James & Maija Weifenbach, Michael & Betty Weller, Ben Ziemba, Paul & Cheryl Zopel
Lucas L. Wolloch from: Dorothy Wolloch
Wylee, our first family pet from: the Bembenek Family
Pam Zarse from: Jenny Blenker

In Honor of...

Lynn Miceli from: Carol Van Alstine
Pam Onstad from: Uta Garrison, Susan Poutinen & Julie Russo

Spay/Neuter Sponsors

BALTZELL-GAUTHIER TRINA & JAMES
BLAVAT MARY
GROSSKOPF TIMOTHY & HELEN
HOESER LISA & DAVE
HOUGHTON JAIME & BRIAN
JARABEK JOSEPH & CHARLENE
KLEIN MARGARET & KENT
LOVE W.H. & ANNE
MIELKE MARY
ROBERTS CHERYL
ROBERTS DAWN
RUDER KEVIN & DAWN
VOLLRATH ELIZABETH



Become a Humane Society member today and you will receive:

- “Humane Society of Portage County Member” window cling
- \$10.00 microchipping for your pet
- Discounts on rabies vaccinations

Don't delay – join us today!

**HUMANE SOCIETY OF PORTAGE COUNTY
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ E-MAIL _____

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP

_____ JUNIOR (17 and under) - \$10

_____ INDIVIDUAL - \$25

_____ FAMILY - \$100

_____ LIFETIME - \$500

_____ CORPORATE SILVER (ANNUAL) - \$250

_____ CORPORATE GOLD (ANNUAL) - \$500

_____ CORPORATE PLATINUM (ANNUAL) - \$1,000

Payment Enclosed (Please make check payable to Humane Society of Portage County)

Please Bill My: MasterCard Visa

Card #: _____ Exp. Date: _____

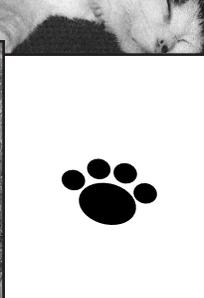
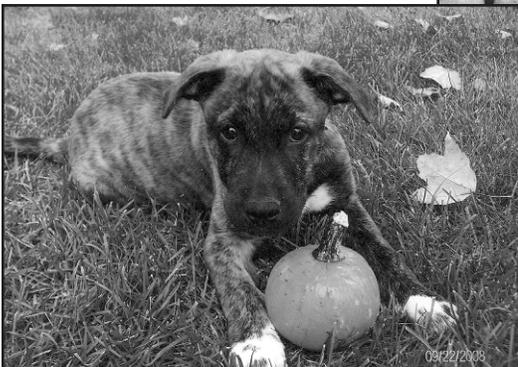
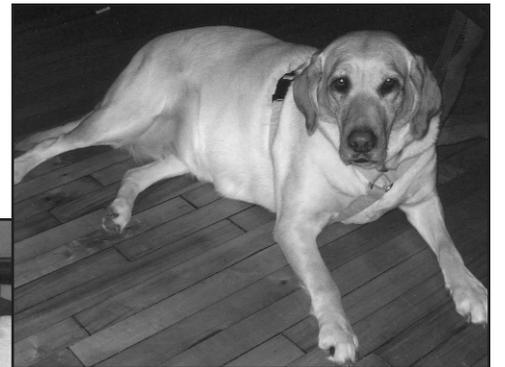
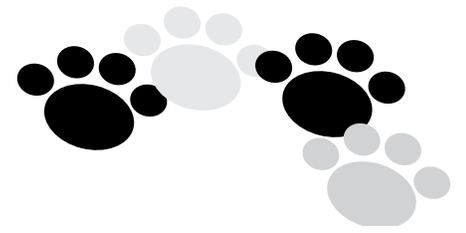
Signature: _____

All Donations are Tax Deductible.

THANK YOU!

HSPC is a private, not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization that is solely supported by donations and does not receive funding from the state or federal government, United Way or national associations. Each year, operational costs are met through fundraising events, contractual agreements, private donations and memberships. The welfare of our animals, programs and the future of our shelter depend upon your generosity! All donations are tax deductible.

HAPPY ENDINGS!





Humane Society of Portage County
3200 Iber Lane
Plover, WI 54467

NON-PROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE
PAID
STEVENS POINT, WI 54481
PERMIT NO. 29

HUMANE SOCIETY OF PORTAGE COUNTY

Shelter Facilities

3200 Iber Lane

Plover, WI 54467

Phone: 715-344-6012 or Fax: 715-344-5954

You can contact the shelter at jennifer.blum@hspcwi.org

SPRING HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday: 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday: 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday: 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Thursday: 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Friday: 12:00 Noon - 6:00 p.m.

Saturday: 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Sunday: CLOSED

Holidays: CLOSED

Mission Statement

Our mission is to prevent cruelty, abuse, neglect and overpopulation of companion animals while seeking adoption of these animals into compatible homes, and teaching humane awareness and respect for all life thus helping to build a better community.

Visit us at www.hspcwi.org or visit www.petfinder.com