



Paws To Read

The Quarterly Newsletter of the HUMANE SOCIETY OF PORTAGE COUNTY

Spring 2006



UNLEASHING THE FUTURE

Since 1970 the Humane Society has helped serve Portage County by providing care to more than 70,000 homeless and abused animals, bite prevention and humane education classes. Now we urgently need your help to build a new shelter.

Thirty-six years later we care for 300% more animals than the original shelter was built to handle. It is painfully obvious that the current facility is not adequate to serve the animals and the community in a safe manner. The walls and concrete are literally crumbling which makes it impossible to disinfect leaving a breeding ground for bacteria and disease. There is no isolation or quarantine for incoming animals or for sick animals, leaving airborne diseases to spread throughout the building. One pet with one fatal disease can wipe out the whole kennel, and has several times. Upper respiratory disease is a constant battle.

The severe lack of space; cat cages are housed on top of dog kennels, the ensuing chaos means constant stress and more illness for the animals. There is only one staff office serving as reception, animal control, adoptions, counseling and surrenders; a narrow room serving as kitchen, laundry, towel/blanket storage, food storage, staff break/coat room, medical storage and medical treatment for animals. Any medical treatment is done on the kitchen counter. There is no room for education classes, animal and prospective adopters to get acquainted. It is not handicapped accessible.

As a result of these serious problems, the Humane Society has initiated a **Capital Campaign** to fund the construction of a new shelter. This new home will contain modern separate dog kennels and cat

Continued on next page

rooms. To assure first-rate health care, it will include isolation areas for animal holding, specific medical space, a laundry, grooming area and separate food prep area. In addition a much needed education room and staff offices. A proper ventilation system will help to control airborne diseases.

We have created an organization that the community has come to depend upon. We have drastically changed the lives of lost, sick and abandoned animals in Portage County. What would happen if we were no longer able to do our job because of a deteriorated building and inadequate facilities? Who would help the 1,500 animals and 30,000 people who turn to us for help each year? That day is approaching.

Won't you please help? See how your generous TAX-DEDUCTIBLE donation can unleash the future of our community. To have this become a reality we need to raise a minimum of \$1.3 million dollars. Any additional funds will be placed into our endowment fund to guarantee a secure future for the upkeep of the building. This building is for us, our pets, our children and our future.

Thank you very much.

Dolores Glytas
Pinker & Chloe

John Seramur
& Gracie

Ways you can help Unleash the Future

Cash Gifts –any amount is most welcome, **Bequests** – designate the Humane Society in your estate
Securities – contribute appreciated securities and receive tax deductibility

WALK FOR THE ANIMALS

Put on your walking shoes for a great cause! The Humane Society of Portage County will be hosting our annual Walk for the Animals on Sunday, June 25th at Pfiffner Park in Stevens Point. Registration of walkers will begin at 1:00pm. All area animal lovers are invited to join us by raising pledges and walking with or without your pet on the day of the event. There will be T-shirts, food and prizes awarded to those folks who raise the most money. We will have entertainment for the entire family. What a great way to spend an afternoon! Look on the website for the informational flyer and pledge sheet or stop in at the shelter to pick one up. If you have questions or would like to help in planning this great event, please contact Dana Schwartzman at the shelter 344-6012. We look forward to seeing you there!

Tasha 1992-2005



We adopted our dog Tasha, a beautiful lab-border collie-lab mix, from the Portage County Humane Society shortly after moving to Stevens Point. She was originally surrendered by her first owner to a local vet for euthanasia due to separation anxiety. Within a few months of being adopted, Tasha became a registered therapy dog, and went on to earn the Therapy Dogs International Active Outstanding Volunteer award. As a therapy dog she touched many lives. She regularly visited the Portage County Home almost every Saturday and participated in many other programs such as summer reading program for children at public libraries. She also went on to earn an obedience title and the UKC Agility Champion title. In all she was asked to do, she was a real trooper. Most of all, she taught us that a shelter dog can just be a diamond in the rough.

The new shelter will help many other families find dogs as special as Tasha. The increased space will make the shelter a *second chance*, rather than a *last chance* for many potentially adoptable pets. When we adopted Tasha, there was only a crowded storage room (with cats and crates) being used as an adoption room. The designated adoption area in the new shelter will give people the chance to meet their pets in a less crowded and stressful environment. Also, I believe the quarantine and vet surgery areas will better ensure the health of pets

adopted from the shelter. Finally, the new shelter will expand the opportunity for educational and training programs open to the public. Overall, the new shelter will greatly benefit the citizens of Stevens Point and Portage County, and help them see that the shelter is a wonderful place to find a new furry friend.

Terese Barta & James Sobaskie

Laney – From Once Untrainable to Working Leader Dog



Laney's previous owners surrendered her stating that they just could not train her. Our Humane Officer Jenney however, thought Laney possessed more abilities. Jenney called Leader Dogs for the Blind to give Laney a second chance. The once 'untrainable' Laney became the 12,526th graduate.

"Please give everyone involved a pat on the back. We know the extra effort you made to get Laney ready. Of all the dogs accepted it is only 30% that actually complete the Leader Dog training. One more deserving blind person has been placed back into the mainstream of life because of your generosity and foresight."

—William Hansen, President

Our annual meeting will be held on May 10th, at 6:30pm, in room 2 of the County Annex Building

Staff and Volunteer Spotlight



Meet Amy Zimmerman – Our New Operations Manager

"When I grow up, I want to be a zookeeper," stated a little Central Wisconsin girl back in the '70's. As the years went by, her fondness for animals never waned. She knew she was meant to work with animals. Her passion for pets finally lead her to an urban animal shelter in 2000 and now in 2006, to the Humane Society of Portage County.



No, I didn't actually achieve my childhood zookeeper dream, but I couldn't be happier. My name is Amy Zimmerman. I am the new Operations Manager here at the HSPC. I bring with me five years experience from the Wisconsin Humane Society in Milwaukee. I began as a wildlife caregiver and dog walking volunteer. I soon became a dedicated full-time staff member assisting families with surrendering their pets and helping other families find new companions. I also provided pet behavior counseling and conducted canine temperament tests. As a Team Leader, I managed a staff of twenty-five adoption counselors. I was responsible for hiring and training new staff, managing the day-to-day operations of the Arrivals/Surrender Department, resolving conflicts with clients, implementing new programs and policies as needed to instill positive community relations

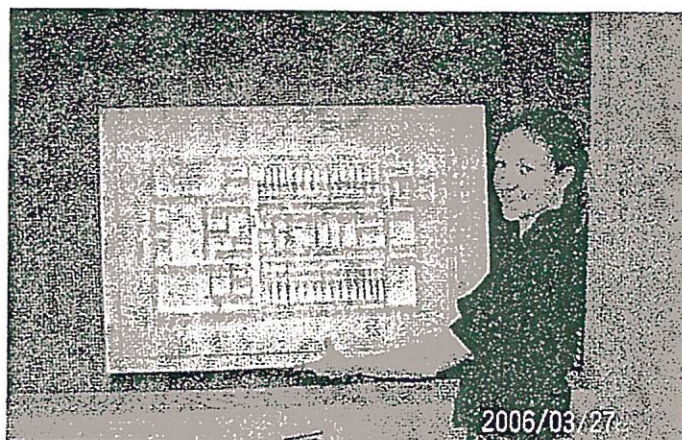
and increase adoptions. In my free time, I fostered over thirty sick and under socialized animals for the Wisconsin Humane Society. I also volunteered with the German Shepherd Rescue Alliance of Wisconsin.

I am very excited to be a part of the HSPC. We may be small but what we lack in size we more than make up for with our devotion to homeless animals, commitment to education for children and adults and a resource for our community. Stop in and say hello. You'll be greeted by smiling faces, wagging tails, and a chorus of purrs and meows.



Volunteer – Kristin Cerutti

While preparing our Capital Campaign for the new building, the board thought it would be great for the community to view a scale model of the new building. We approached the University's Interior Design Department for a student volunteer. Kristin Cerutti a fourth year Interior Architecture major answered the call.



Kristin, who will be graduating this December, is already a world traveler and will be off to London studying with the Phillips Group International. She is currently studying for the GRE exam and will be applying for graduate school. She enjoys fencing, reading and swimming. Kristin hopes to own a design firm that constructs homes for those who cannot afford it on their own.

Kristin is on her way to realizing her dream with the time she took to put together our scale model. From all of us, Thank you Kristin!

We hope to have this as a traveling model for all the community to see. Please contact us if your business would like to display our building.

HANDS HELPING PAWS



Women In Communication

Thank you to the "Women in Communication" from UWSP who collected items and monetary donations for us. With kind permission from County Market these ladies set up display boards and spent a weekend in the store's lobby collecting much-needed funds and supplies for the animals. Now that's what I call using your communications skills!!

If your group would like to do something similar to help the animals please give us a call at 344-6012.

Valentines' Raffle Winner

This year, the award winning designer, Tom Dailing pulled the ticket for the winner of our annual **Puppy Love Valentines Raffle Package**. Ms. Amy Etzel was the lucky winner!

We are so very grateful to these fantastic businesses for making our raffle a success. We were able to raise just over \$3,000 for the shelter operations. The total gift package included the following:

- 14K yellow gold heart pendent w/diamond accent & chain
Donated by: **Lee Ayers Jewelers and Thomas Dailing Designs**
- The Couples Romantic Retreat (3 hours of pampering)
Donated by: **The Wellness Spa**
- A \$60 Gourmet Dinner for two
Donated by: **The Silver Coach**
- One Dozen Beautiful Long Stemmed Red Roses
Donated by: **Zurawski's Floral**

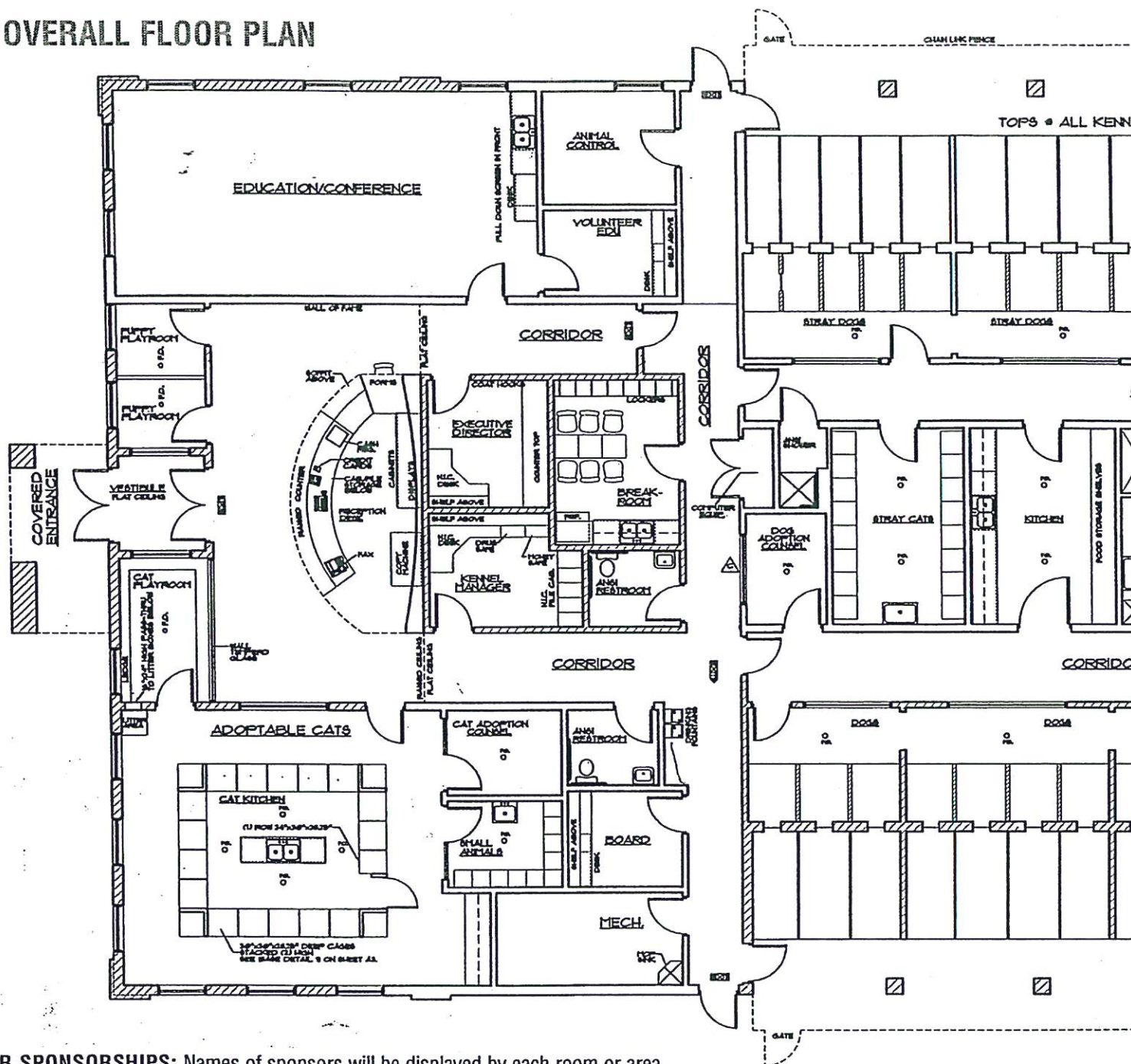
Girl Scout Troop 69



A round of "a-paws" goes out to *Girl Scout Troop 69* for the wonderful donations of cleaning supplies and pet food that were brought in Saturday, March 18th. The girls spent some time touring the shelter from a stray dog's point of view and learned exactly what happens to animals during their stay here at the HSPC. Lots of wonderful questions were asked by the troop. Each child received an info packet regarding pet care, what to do if you see a stray, and ways children can help with fundraising for our shelter. We had a wonderful time. A special thanks goes out to the troop leader and parents for coordinating this field trip.

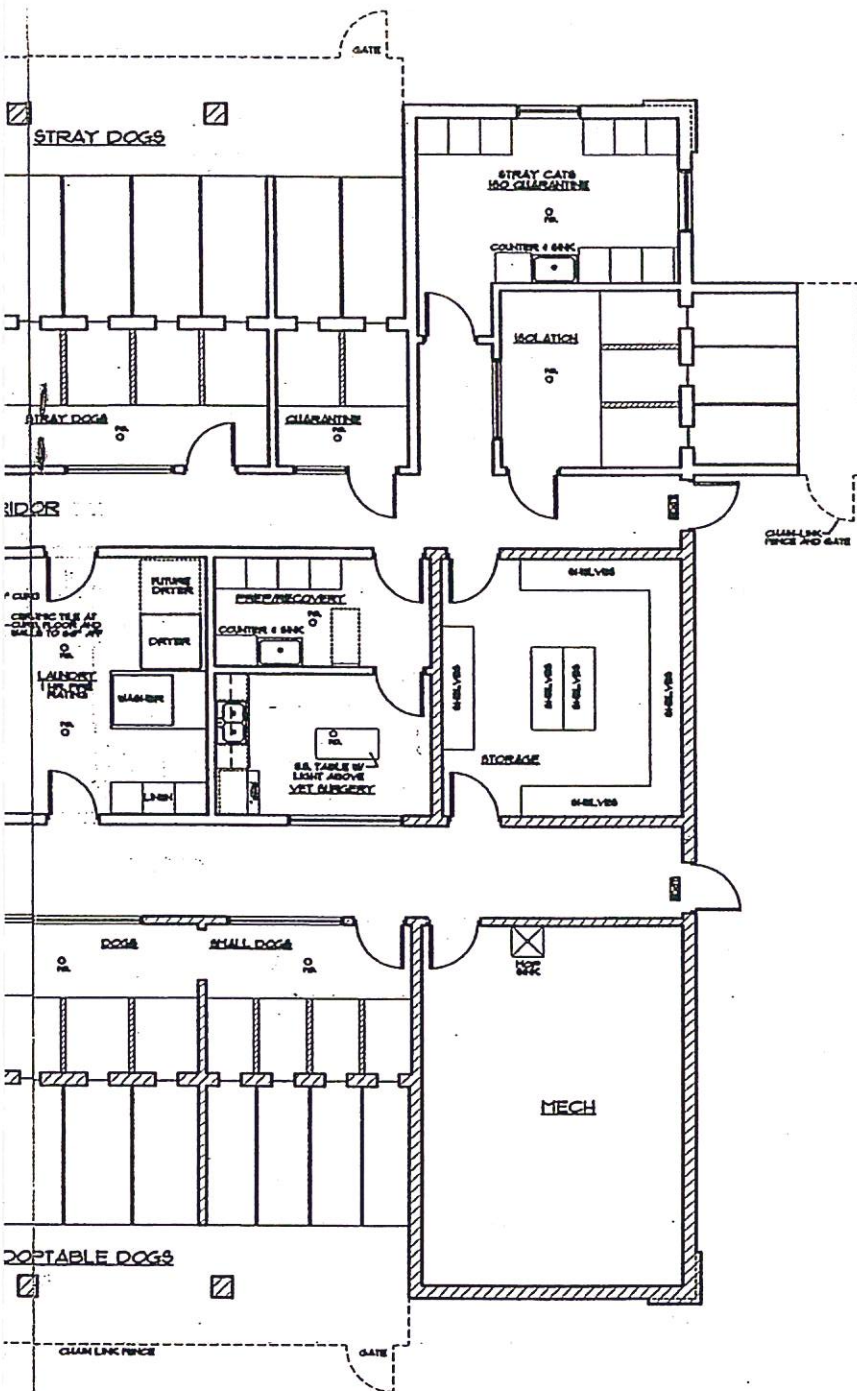
If you are interested in a tour or perhaps an educational seminar for your youth group, please contact our shelter and ask for Greta, our Volunteer Coordinator.

OVERALL FLOOR PLAN



FOR SPONSORSHIPS: Names of sponsors will be displayed by each room or area.

ROOM / AREA	DONATION	ROOM / AREA	DONATION	ROOM / AREA	DONATION
Shelter Building	Sponsored	Kitty Playroom	\$10,000	"Get Acquainted"	2 - each @ \$ 5,00
Reception/Lobby	Sponsored	Humane Officers	\$10,000	Grooming	\$ 5,00
Education/Conference	\$75,000	Kennel Manager	\$10,000	Memorial Gardens	2 - each @ \$ 5,00
Surrendered/Stray Dogs	\$35,000	Stray Cats	\$10,000	Outdoor Play Area	\$ 5,00
Dog Adoption	Sponsored	Food Prep	\$10,000	Adoption Lane	\$ 3,00
Cat Adoption	\$30,000	Dog Isolation	\$10,000	Records/Storage	\$ 3,00
Garage	\$25,000	Dog Quarantine	\$10,000	Stray Ally	\$ 3,00
Laundry	\$20,000	Reference Library	\$10,000	Rest Rooms	2 - each @ \$ 2,00
Cat Colony	\$20,000	Volunteer	\$ 8,000	Staff Shower	\$ 2,00
Veterinary	\$15,000	Board	\$ 8,000	Dog Kennels	33 - each @ \$ 1,50
Operations Manager	\$13,000	Exercise Trail	\$ 8,000	Trees	12 - each @ \$ 1,00
Medical Prep/Recovery	\$12,000	Vestibule	\$ 5,000	Cat Condos	100 - each @ \$ 50
Cat Iso/Quarantine	\$11,000	Small Animals	\$ 5,000	Small Animal Cages	24 - each @ \$ 20
Puppy Playroom	\$10,000	Staff Breakroom	\$ 5,000	Benches	10 - each @ \$ 50



When I came to Stevens Point in 1991, I was impressed with good quality work that the **PORTAGE COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY** did even though the facilities were inadequate. Since then, the populations of animals and people have grown, and PCHS has continued to get the job done with a substandard, crowded building. The talented, hard-working people of PCHS will do wonders with the new facility. They will finally be able to quarantine sick animals, to do onsite medical care, public education and to keep the animals longer. Both the animals and people of Portage County will benefit tremendously for years and years.

— Tom Kelble

FURNISHINGS & EQUIPMENT

DONATION

Industrial Washer		\$ 4,000
Industrial Dryer	2 - each @	\$ 2,500
Copier		\$ 3,000
Computers	6 - each @	\$ 1,000
Desks	5 - each @	\$ 200
File Cabinets	30 - each @	\$ 150
Office Chairs	7 - each @	\$ 100
Education Tables	10 - each @	\$ 200
Education Chairs	60 - each @	\$ 30
Refrigerators	3 - each @	\$ 400
Medical Equipment		\$ 5,000
Lawn Tractor		\$ 3,000
Snow Blower		\$ 800
Shelving Units	20 - each @	\$ 100

FOR DONATIONS:

For gifts of \$100 or more, donor's name will be displayed on the Giving Wall.

For gifts of \$500 or more, you will receive the above plus a membership and gift.

For gifts of \$1000 or more, you will receive the above plus a Wellness Spa gift certificate

Any donation amount is appreciated. This price list is an example of the cost for specific sponsorships. For information on in-kind donations, please call 344-6012. Our minimum goal is \$1.3 million. Any money received over the goal amount will go directly into an endowment fund.

Blastomycosis Is In The News

What is canine blastomycosis, and how does an animal get this disease?

Blastomycosis infects dogs, people, and occasionally cats. Blastomycosis in dogs is a fungal disease caused by *Blastomyces dermatitidis*. This fungus most commonly infects humans and animals through the respiratory tract. After spores are inhaled, they settle in the small airways and begin to reproduce. The organism then spreads throughout the body to involve many organs. Rarely, infection occurs through contamination of an open wound.

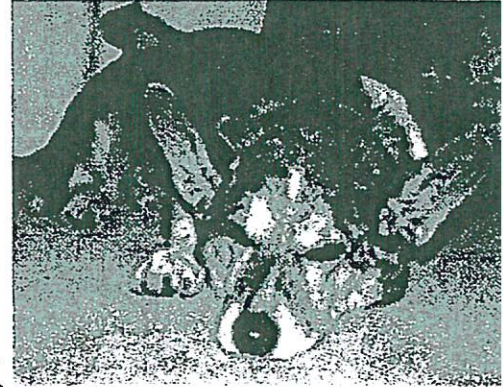
Although researchers in human medicine have been largely unsuccessful in isolating the organism from the environment, it appears that both humans and animals become infected from particular environmental sources, most likely the soil. In the United States, the disease is most prevalent in the warm, moist environment found in the Wisconsin, Ohio and Mississippi River Valleys. It is very common in the Southeastern United States.

What can I do to rid the environment of the fungal organism?

Unfortunately there is nothing you can do to eliminate the fungus from the environment. The organism is ubiquitous, meaning it lives everywhere.

What are the signs of the canine blastomycosis disease?

The fungus seems to target certain body systems, although it is usually spread throughout the entire body. Fever, depression, weight loss, and loss of appetite are common clinical signs. Draining skin lesions are seen in many cases. Some degree of respiratory distress is present in advanced cases. Blindness may occur suddenly because the eyes are frequently involved. Lameness, orchitis (testicular inflammation), seizures, coughing, enlarged lymph nodes, and a variety of other signs are reported.



How is dog blastomycosis diagnosed?

The only tests which conclusively diagnose blastomycosis in canines are cytology and histopathology. Cytology, the microscopic study of cells, may be performed in the veterinarian's office on some of the fluid draining from an open wound or aspirated from a nodule or lymph node. Histopathology is the study of cells and tissue architecture; a tissue sample is sent away to a veterinary pathologist for review and diagnosis. Because the organism is shed in large numbers in the draining lesions, canine blastomycosis may be diagnosed in the office with cytology.

Can blastomycosis in canines be treated?

Yes, although not all pets will survive. Fortunately, the newest anti-fungal agent being used, itraconazole, is well tolerated by most animals and has relatively few side effects when compared to the agents being used several years ago. Dogs may require several months of therapy to successfully treat this disease.

How do I know if my animal will survive?

There is no way to determine this before treatment is begun, although an animal in poor condition and with advanced disease is less likely to survive. For many, the critical period comes in the first 24-72 hours when the drug takes effect and the fungi begin to die. The lungs harbor a large number of organisms. A severe inflammatory response may occur as treatment takes effect and the organisms begin to die in the lungs. Respiratory distress may be a significant problem in the first few days of therapy. The animal's chest will be x-rayed prior to therapy to determine the presence and significance of a fungal pneumonia, although the chest x-ray cannot predict the outcome of treatment.

Relapse of infection is more common when the organism involves the nervous system, the testicles, or the eyes. Many drugs have difficulty penetrating the natural barriers of the nervous system, and these infections are hard to treat. Male dogs may need to be neutered to remove this potential source of organism. For similar reasons, one or both eyes may be removed, especially if the pet has already been blinded by the disease. The risk of relapse is very real with this disease, even though treatment appears successful.

Am I at risk of infection from my animal?

Studies on the fungus have found that once an animal is infected, the organism enters a different form or phase that does not appear to be infectious to other animals or to humans. However, strict hygiene should be followed in handling the draining lesions. The use of protective gloves and thorough hand washing should follow contact with these animals. The infected pet does not need to be segregated from the owner or other household pets. The true risk of infection to others probably comes from sharing the same environment where infection occurred (i.e. soil, etc.). Because the *Blastomyces* organism may be harbored near your home, we would recommend that you advise your family physician of your pet's diagnosis.

You Can Help!

Our day to day operations at the Humane Society of Portage County requires unbelievable quantities of supplies for feeding, cleaning and our day-to-day office operations. You can help by donating the following items at any time.



ITEMS NEEDED:

Toilet Paper	Kitten Chow	Blankets & Flat Sheets
Paper Towels	Dog Treats	Copy Paper
Powdered Laundry Detergent	Rawhides	35 mm Film
Bleach	Pigs Ears	Polaroid 600 Film
Clorox Spray Cleaner	Peanut Butter	All In One Cameras
409 Cleaner	Cat & Dog Toys	Kitchen Trash Bags
Jungle Jake	Kong Toys	33 Gallon Trash CANS with LIDS
Dish Washing Liquid	Stuffed Animals	33 Gallon Trash Bags Clear or Black
Small Bags for Picking Up Dog Poop		
Donations for New Cat Condos/Houses (Prices range from \$1,200 - \$2,200 a piece.)		

Another Way To Make Your Donations Count

Education:

Produce one weekly TV show	\$ 40.00
Purchase "Kind News" for one elementary classroom	\$ 25.00
Pay for paper of one quarterly newsletter "Paws to Read"	\$150.00

Medical Costs:

One week's veterinary expense	\$75.00
One week's supply of medical supplies	\$65.00
One week's supply of rabies vaccine	\$45.00

Neuter/Spay (Average Cost):

Neuter one cat	\$ 60.00
Spay one cat	\$105.00
Neuter one dog	\$105.00
Spay one dog	\$145.00

Shelter Expenses:

One week's telephone cost	\$40.00
One week's utilities (heat/air/electricity)	\$80.00
One week's water bill	\$40.00
One week's general supplies	\$95.00

DONATE YOUR TIME

We are always in need of loyal and kind hearted volunteers. We need help in the kennel, our education programs, the office, fundraising or helping with special events. Groups can also help in many different ways. Come in and fill out a volunteer request form today.

THANK YOU!!!

Ms. Jenkins presented a check for \$624.22 to the shelter on behalf of the students at Madison Elementary School! The students held their annual contest to see which class could raise the most money in coins. Thank you so much kids from all our pets that you always help!

GIFTS – HONORARIUMS – MEMORIALS

GIFTS

Kwik Trip, Inc.
Necedah Metals, Co.
Tamara Holmes
Susan Macht
Timothy & Kathleen Budelier
William & Kathryn Geiger
Arthur & Susan Reinhardt
Jocelyn Reid
Richard & Helen Christofferson
Church of the Intercession
Douglas & Sandra Warner
Paul & Margaret Harmon
Fred Johnson
Jeannette Schwerbel
Leanne Stuebs
Melissa Henske
Wes Halverson
Ervin & Judy Ziese
Patrick & Susan Hedquist
Wisconsin Public Service Corp.
Steve Bachinski
Isaac Stolzer
McDill Sixth Grade Class Economics Bazaar Profits
Michael & Lara Pagel
Michelle Tolstedt
Kathy Powell
Vicki & Larry Hintz
Jane Hendricks
Becky Becker
Emily Luoto
Ben Franklin Junior High School
P.J. Jacobs Junior High School, Sherri Preffer's Art Class
Duane Domke
Patty Meronek
Dennis Holcomb Sentry Insurance Employee
Matching Program
Lorraine Avery
Lynn Dombrowski
Jane Brooker
Sharon Morell
Gladys Glodowski
Renee Smith
Lilly Mott
MPTC
Karen Slicer Diane Kippenhan-Vollmer
Amy Randazzo
Aurora Health Care for Vicky Calawerts
UWSP Animal Pre-Vet Society's Bake Sale
Jan Pierson
Sandra Knapp
Don & Edie Hoffman
David Labeause
Robert & Bernice Kranski
Chad Schroeder
Deanie Buckley

GIFTS – HONORARIUMS – MEMORIALS Cont'd

GIFTS

Sherry Abhold
Sharon Mras
April Konkol
Alan Muetzelburg
Heather Mentzel

GIVEN IN HONOR OF

Kristin Kubsch for Herb & Kathi Noah

GIVEN IN MEMORY OF

Marcia Meshak for Dingo, Holly & Ivy
Mike & Chris Williams for Cali 'Cell Phone' owned by Sarah Trebatoski
Judith & Gary Cumley for Isabel Frierdich
Flatoff's Gold Key Motors, Inc. for Kayleigh Steinbacks cat Blackie
Brett & Darcy Jarman for James Otte
John Bierman for James Otte
SPAH for Maggie Kaminski, Connor Keilpinski, Midnight Asuquo, Katie Barwick, Boots Lopatin, Taz Lipski, Oliver Lummis, Shadow Colrud, Zeus Hecker, Sandy Hartvig, Shadow Dampier and Samson Rifleman
Sue Trzinski for James Otte
Paul & Irene Koshollek for James Otte
Don & Barbara Huebregtse for James Otte
John & Glee Mulrooney for James Otte
Janet & Larry Willet for James Otte
Richard & Esther Berndt for James Otte
Fran Roman for James Otte
Edna Wenhold for James Otte
Nancy Otte for James Otte
Daniel & Elizabeth Trainer for James Otte
Madeline & Florian Klasinski for James Otte
Lori & Jonathan Witt for James Otte
Elizabeth Siebert for James Otte
Randall & Joan Bender for James Otte
Margaret Faber for James Otte
Dale & Susan Otte for James Otte
Gale & Lois Brehm for James Otte
Peter & Jean Boettcher for James Otte
Perry & Jacqueline Chojnacki for James Otte
Edmund & Henrietta Worzalla for James Otte
Patricia & Donald Otte for James Otte
Carl & Kay Wohlbier for James Otte
John & Janet Roberts for James Otte
Sherry Fay for Karen Lecy
Douglas Chickering for James Otte
Roman & Sue Ann Hintz for James Otte
Mark & Jackie Schmaus for James Otte
Phillip & Barbara Alm for James Otte
Sharon Mras for Romeo

NEUTER SPONSORS

Timber Ridge Dog Training Club
Mary Murphy
Herb & Kathi Noah

HUMANE SOCIETY OF PORTAGE COUNTY

Shelter Facilities

P.O. Box 512 - 100 6th Avenue - Bukolt Park

Stevens Point, WI 54481

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

You can contact the Shelter at info@hspcwi.org

NEW FALL & WINTER HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday: 11:00 AM – 6:00 PM

Tuesday: 12:00 Noon – 6:00 PM

Wednesday: 11:00 AM – 6:00 PM

Thursday: 11:00 AM – 6:00 PM

Friday: 11:00 AM – 6:00 PM

Saturday: 12 Noon – 6:00 PM

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.

HSPC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dolores Glytas, President

Dennis Schenk, Vice President

Paul Duquette, Treasurer

Dawn Roberts, Secretary

Lorraine Avery

Jon Cronce

Ken Dawson

Jaime Houghton

Dennis Flanigan

Wayne Hartzheim

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



Humane Society of Portage County
P.O. Box 512
Stevens Point, WI 54481

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**WALK
FOR THE
ANIMALS**

**June 25, 2006
Mark your
Calendar!**