

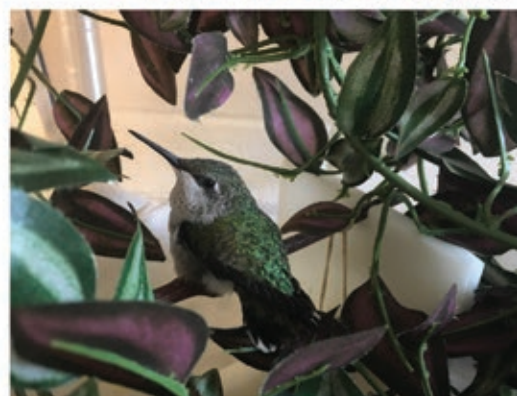
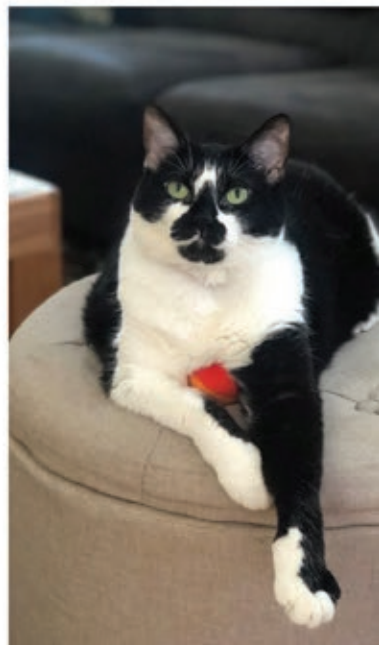


Critter Chronicles

The
Feel Good
Issue

Fall 2020 | Vol 37 Issue 3

- Virtual Pet Walks Raise \$225,000 and counting
- A 900-mile Reunion
- Prepare to Be Inspired: Kyric's Lemonade
- Great Horned Owl Rescued from Net





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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Owner Drives Nearly 900 Miles for Happy Reunion!



When she learned that her former dog was at the Wisconsin Humane Society, Robin quickly made arrangements to drive from North Dakota to retrieve this special boy. Buddy's most recent owner had surrendered Buddy to WHS due to serious medical issues, which our veterinary staff were fortunately able to treat. Despite the long distance, Robin knew she had to get Buddy back and drove nearly 900 miles for this happy reunion. Upon seeing her, Buddy immediately rolled over for belly rubs and was overjoyed to see his mom! Robin shared that her terminally-ill husband is in hospice at home, and since returning to North Dakota, Buddy is providing lots of stress relief – and kisses – to Robin and her husband. "I'm so glad to have my baby back," she shared. We are so glad, too!

Special Delivery

Imagine the surprise of our Behavior Evaluator, Carolyn, when she found an early morning surprise: a box of kittens outside our WHS Racine Campus! The five babies were nestled in a box with food, fresh water, and bedding. Carolyn swiftly scooped them up and brought them inside, where they were given medical checks before heading to a foster home to grow up big and strong. And that they are!

This box of kittens was the first such anonymous drop-off at our Racine Campus. While we always prefer an appointment to best prepare for an animal's arrival, and getting background history can be of critical importance, we are grateful that they were brought to a safe place. Please visit wihumane.org for more information and resources if you are struggling to care for your pet.



Thank You!

Brady Corporation



We were humbled to be chosen by the passionate employees of the Brady Corporation as a beneficiary for their 10th annual Brady Walk for the Community. Amid this challenging time, the generosity of the Brady Foundation will play a critical role in providing essential care to local animals and the families who love them. A heartfelt thank you from all of us at WHS and the animals we serve.

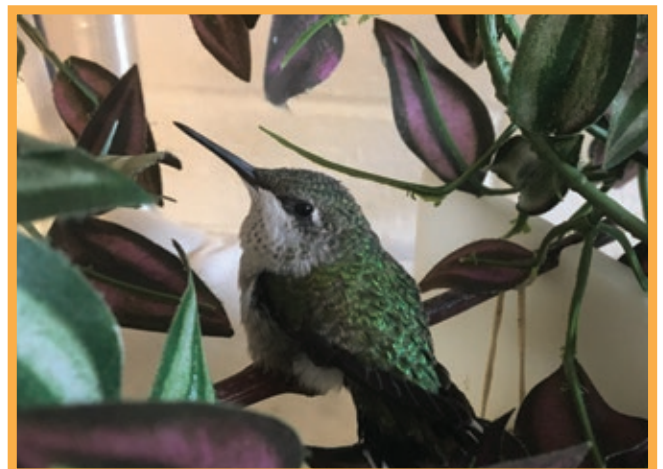
Terry's Wall St. Pub



Last month, Terry's Wall St. Pub hosted their annual car and bike wash to raise much-needed funds for the animals at the WHS Green Bay Campus. Thanks to all those dirty vehicles, \$1,397.18 was raised in one afternoon! And because all donations to the Green Bay Campus made by September 30 are being matched by the George Kress Family Foundation, that amount is DOUBLED. The pub's owner, Terry Smits, has put this event on for six years now and this was the most successful one yet. Thank you for your continued support, Terry!

Hummingbird Release

This precious young Ruby-throated Hummingbird was brought to the Wildlife Rehabilitation Center by a caring couple after a very heavy rainstorm. She was found weak, cold, and exhausted in the middle of a road. After some delicate rehab work, she made a full recovery and was soon flying all over the place! We returned her to where she was found so she could reconnect with her mom. As our wildlife supervisor put it, releases are always incredibly rewarding, but a hummingbird release is an entirely different level of magic!



Prepare to Be Inspired: Kyric's Lemonade



This young woman is already a business owner at the age of 9, brewing up delicious lemonade in five popular flavors. You may have heard of Kyric's Lemonade from the media, as she received coverage for being a young leader doing amazing things. As her business grows, Kyric continues to donate a portion of proceeds to various nonprofits doing work that is near and dear to her heart. Not once but twice, Kyric used a portion of her profits to purchase much-needed food and supplies for the animals at WHS, and we were so very grateful! **Be sure to follow her on Facebook at "Kyric's Lemonade" for updates and info on how to purchase some lemonade of your own!**

Great Horned Owl Rescued from Net



This Great Horned Owl was so hopelessly entangled in this soccer net, we had to cut him out of it! Once at our Wildlife Rehabilitation Center, he received a thorough exam, some supportive care, and a chance to rest and recover. We are so pleased to report that this magnificent owl was recently released back into the wild!

As odd as this seems, this unfortunately happens more frequently than you would expect. If you have a sports net, please do take it down or cover it when not in use. It helps prevent situations like this, and it also helps preserve the life of the net. Thanks for caring about wildlife!



Giveback Days



Giveback Days are great ways to engage your followers, friends, and family, while supporting WHS! Check out some ways you can give back to the animals:

Restaurants, breweries, bars, and coffee shops can give back!

- Organize a giveback day where you choose a percent of proceeds to donate, or select a specialty item and give a certain amount from each purchase, like a dessert or drink.
- Timing is up to you! Get people excited for a big one-day promotion or keep people supporting with a month-long promotion, like every Wednesday in November.

Stores and businesses can give back, too!

- Donate a percent of sales for a day, week, or month. Join up with other local businesses to double your impact.
- Feature a signature item, like an animal-themed product or something you're known for. Your shoppers will love knowing they're supporting your business and animals in need!

Doggy daycare, dog walking, and pet sitting – oh my!

- Pet owners can always use a hand, so try offering dog walking or pet sitting services, where a portion of the funds raised support WHS.

Birthday, anniversary, or other celebration coming up? Support the animals!

- Celebrate your birthday or anniversary with all your friends by setting up an online fundraiser to benefit pets in need.
- Even with shifting wedding plans, you can easily give back to the animals by starting an online page for your guests to donate instead of sending gifts at wihumane.org/weddings.

For help with your community fundraiser, contact:

Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine:
Ruadhan Ward | rward@wihumane.org | 414-431-6122

Green Bay, Door County:
Lori Nachtwey | lnachtwey@wihumane.org | 920-469-3110 ext. 2119



Pet Walk

RAISED \$225,000

Thank you so much!

We were blown away by the generosity of everyone who supported the 2020 Virtual Pet Walks in Milwaukee and Green Bay for WHS: you helped raise more than \$225,000 for the animals at the Wisconsin Humane Society! A lot has changed these last few months, and we cannot thank you enough for your dedication and support of animals in need. Whether you spread the word about the events, collected donations to earn prizes, donated to a friend's page, or registered and walked with us virtually in June, we owe this year's success to you!

A special thank you to our 2020 Virtual Pet Walk Sponsors:

The 2020 Virtual Pet Walks were proudly presented by
PETCO FOUNDATION AND CAPITAL CREDIT UNION

WISN 12 NEWS | WFRV | MILWAUKEE RADIO GROUP | STAR 98 | VCA ANIMAL HOSPITALS
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 VETERINARY REFERRAL CENTER) | THE WESTIN | HUPY & ABRAHAM | LEASHLESS LAB

In addition, we want to thank all of the local vendors who were part of our virtual vendor village!

Help Us Celebrate Paws & Claws Week in October!

In response to the ongoing pandemic, we will be celebrating the annual Paws & Claws Gala online in 2020. This means we're inviting you to follow us on Facebook the week of October 12-17 for your favorite gala activities: silent and live auctions, wine pull, games, and of course, inspirational stories from the animals who need your support...all from the comfort of your own couch!

The Paws & Claws Gala is one of the largest fundraisers of the year for WHS, and going "virtual" does not change the importance of such a pivotal event. We're counting on our supporters now more

than ever to ensure that we can continue to provide lifesaving care to the animals who need us most.

While we may not be celebrating in-person this October, we can still come together to support the needs of animals and their families, especially during this difficult time. Animal-lovers like you can still change lives by supporting this year's Paws & Claws Week October 12-17. Learn more and see how you can support the animals by visiting gala.wihumane.org.

PAWS & CLAWS WEEK

OCTOBER 12 - 17

BENEFITING THE WISCONSIN HUMANE SOCIETY

PRESENTED BY



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Superhero Supporter: *Joyce Madsen*

For Joyce Madsen, long-time friend of WHS and Buster's Legacy Society member, making a difference for animals in need is not just about generosity, it's about supporting a program that is near and dear to her heart.

Joyce recently partnered with WHS by providing an incredible \$30,000 matching gift to help raise funds to support the WHS foster program. The foster program serves nearly 4,000 animals annually, providing things like medical care, behavior support, or extra socialization for dogs, cats, and small animals who need a little extra help before they are ready to be adopted.

When asked why she decided to make such an impactful gift, Joyce shared:

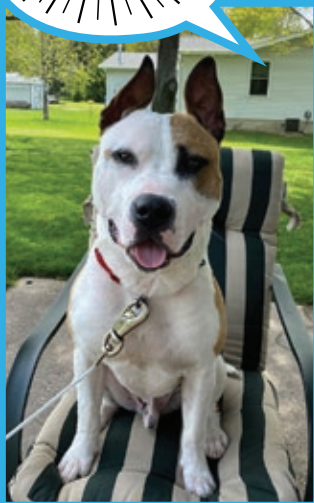


“Who doesn't love puppies? Loving them is the easy part, but it takes more than that. It takes excellent health care, high-quality food, socialization, and sometimes a toy or two to rescue animals and transform them into pets that are ready for adoption. All that, of course, takes financial support, preferably on a regularly scheduled, continuous basis. The love and devotion that my adopted dogs have given me inspired me to give a little back in the form of a matching gift opportunity. The response to my pledge has been truly heartwarming. Knowing that my gift — and yours as well — will allow WHS to continue with its lifesaving mission, and service to the community, is an indescribable gift in itself.”

We give a heartfelt thank you to Joyce Madsen, to her loving adopted dogs who have helped to inspire such generosity, and to all who joined Joyce in making a difference for foster animals at WHS!

Adopter Updates

Bruce!

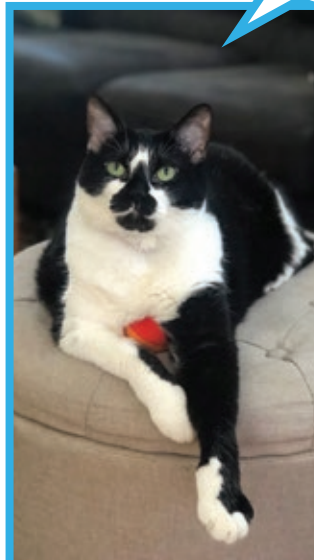


"Wishing you health and safety as you continue to assist animals in need. We had been talking about adding a four-legged family member for nearly a year and being home during the shutdown seemed like the perfect time. We adopted Bruce "Bruce Willis" in early April. We are happy to report that Bruce is an amazing addition to our family! Bruce's favorite hobbies include giving high fives and handshakes for treats, cuddling with his humans, playing with his toys, and sitting on the porch watching people and other dogs go by. He loves kids, adults, and other dogs alike, but doesn't quite understand why we

are trying to keep our distance. We look forward to the time Bruce can make all the new friends his little heart desires. Until then, we'll keep watching from the porch."

- Tom, Megan, and Bruce

Millie!



"Hello! I just wanted to reach out and tell you all how great Millie (formerly Mickey while at the WHS) is doing! She is just the most silly, lovable cat! Even when we first brought her home, she strutted confidently out of her cage and made herself at home. She is most certainly in charge around here! As we were aware at the time of adoption, she had a fractured tooth. She had dental surgery last week Thursday and is recovering so quickly! Thank you for all of the work you do to give awesome, amazing animals like Millie homes!"

- Anna

Partnership with COA Brings Food to Pets in Need



Our Pets for Life team has had to get creative in how they serve families and animals through the COVID-19 crisis. We usually connect with community members through daily door-to-door outreach, but that wasn't possible this summer as we worked to keep our community and staff safe. The team found ways to support the nearly 8,000 families and 15,000 pets we serve, including texts and phone calls, supply drop-offs, and telemedicine appointments. But we missed seeing the families we serve, and we were so excited in June to add a partnership with COA Youth and Family Services' Goldin Center, in the heart of our focus community.

Through the partnership, our team was able to provide pet food alongside COA's weekly food pantry items, which provided the perfect chance for our Pets for Life team to catch up with current clients, meet new families, and hear from the community – all from a safe distance. Each Saturday we were there, we distributed roughly 150 bags of pet food and litter. Thanks so much to COA for hosting us and for getting resources out to the community!

We continue to offer free spay/neuter and other services to families with pets in our service area, which has little access to pet care information or services.

**To learn more about Pets for Life, visit
www.wihumane.org/services/pets-for-life.**

Virtual Programs Reach New Young People

This summer was an amazing one for animal-loving kids in the communities we serve and beyond! In addition to weekly virtual story times with animal guests, we continued to host virtual birthday parties we launched this spring. These programs helped us to reach a wider audience; one of the birthday kids we hosted was in Boston, and they had a guest celebrating with them from South Africa!

We also offered virtual camps in June that brought fun, engaging activities to young people's homes. Every camper's favorite part of the day is getting to meet an animal, even when those visits were via webcam! One of our camper's parents E-mailed: "I'm blown away by the level of enthusiasm the instructors are bringing, the engagement of the campers, and how much planning went into a successful virtual format. A lot of organizations have been attempting a virtual camp; and this is by far one of the best I've seen. Thank you for this wonderful offering." We were thrilled to get such a positive response!

Although campers loved our virtual camps, we also knew that families were looking for safe ways to provide more social outlets for their children. In July, we launched in-person camps with enhanced safety precautions. Campers participated in physically distanced games, crafts, and interactions with animals including dogs, cats, rabbits, ferrets, and bearded dragons. We even had a visit from the Milwaukee Brewers Racing Sausages at our Milwaukee Campus! Camps also included some amazing virtual visits from animal experts across the country, including guests from a farm sanctuary, a local wildlife photographer, and a beekeeper.

As we prepare for fall, we look forward to offering small, in-person programs as safety allows, and we will also provide fun and engaging virtual programs for schools, Scouts, and young people in our communities.



For up-to-date information on our youth programs, visit www.wihumane.org/for-kids.

Thank You for Helping Connect WHS with this Amazing Kid!



2013

During the summer of 2013, 10-year-old Sienna Hill first walked into the Wisconsin Humane Society to attend a youth program, and has been an advocate for animals and WHS ever since.

"I have always loved animals ever since I was young and when I heard that there was a program where I could work with and train a dog, I was all for it" says Sienna. "Ever since then I have loved working with animals, wild and domestic."

WHS offers a variety of youth programs to encourage a lifelong interest in animals, and a clear sense of how kids can help animals and make a difference. Sienna is one such kid whose leadership, experience, and commitment are making an impact for animals in need.

In 2013, Sienna decided she wanted to volunteer at WHS. While volunteering, she cared for orphaned wild birds at our Wildlife Rehabilitation Center. She was also a junior camp counselor, sharing her love for animals with other kids participating in our youth camps.

"During my time at the Humane Society, I have learned a lot about animals and animal care, teamwork, [and] leadership...Being involved with the humane society has really had a big impact on my life. I have gained useful skills, met great people, and because of my great experiences, I am working toward becoming a wildlife rehabber. I really value what I have learned while at the Humane Society and I plan to stay involved."

Your compassionate support is what helped Sienna and the Wisconsin Humane Society connect - thank you! Sienna is just one of the thousands of young people who have participated in youth programs at WHS, and we're especially grateful that this bright young woman is still connected with us and planning a career around helping animals. You can ensure future generations have opportunities to get involved in our work.

Is the Wisconsin Humane Society already in your will, trust, or other estate plans? Thank you! Please let us know about your plans because it helps the Wisconsin Humane Society plan for the future. Call or email Maren McFarlane in the Development office at 414-431-6146 or mmcfarlane@wihumane.org and she will add your name to the Buster's Legacy Society. If preferred, your gift may remain anonymous.

Don't have a will, trust, or other estate plans? You're not alone! Now is a great time to start planning and we are here to help you. For additional information on easy ways you can help the Wisconsin Humane Society, contact Maren at 414-431-6146 or mmcfarlane@wihumane.org, or visit wihumane.plannedgiving.org.

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racine campus | 8900 16th street, mount pleasant, wi 53177

green bay campus | 1830 radisson street, green bay, wi 54302
door county campus | 3475 park drive, sturgeon bay, wi 54235
spay neuter clinic | 9400 west lincoln ave, west allis, wi 53227