



**WISCONSIN**  
humane society



# Critter Chronicles

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**SUMMER CAMPS FOR ANIMAL-LOVING KIDS**

The Wisconsin Humane Society (WHS) is thrilled to offer summer camps at our Milwaukee, Ozaukee, and Racine Campuses. Whether campers are first-timers or returning for another summer of fun, each year guarantees unique and exciting activities. Tailored for animal enthusiasts in grades 1-9, these week-long adventures offer animal-related activities such as crafts, games, tours of the shelter, and opportunities to meet furry friends. From exploring the basics of animal care and behavior to discovering the world of veterinary medicine, there is something for everyone!



In order to engage more young people in our community, we are offering 60 full camp scholarships to those who demonstrate financial need. Teachers and mentors are encouraged to nominate candidates they know or families can apply directly. More information and the scholarship submission form is available on our website at [www.wihumane.org/scholarships](http://www.wihumane.org/scholarships).

WHS also offers a youth leaders program for teens to build leadership skills and gain valuable experience by assisting with camp sessions. Youth leaders ages 13-17 play a crucial role in facilitating activities such as games and crafts, providing them with the opportunity to interact with campers and animals. Interested teens can apply with the support of a parent/guardian!

Find out more about our summer programs and the many ways kids can get involved by visiting [www.wihumane.org/for-kids](http://www.wihumane.org/for-kids) or contacting our team at [youthprograms@wihumane.org](mailto:youthprograms@wihumane.org). We're looking forward to a great summer!



# WE ARE SO GRATEFUL TO THESE WHS SUPPORTERS

## My Little Pony fans floored us with their generosity!

November marked the third year that the Ponyville Ciderfest committee chose the Wisconsin Humane Society as the recipient of the charity auction at their annual event held in Milwaukee. On the last day of the convention, My Little Pony enthusiasts bid on tons of unique items and raised nearly \$100,000 to benefit the animals in our care!



On behalf of everyone at WHS, we owe a profound thank you to Ponyville Ciderfest for choosing us as the recipient of their charity auctions. We are humbled by the support and generosity. This event has made such an impact on the over 40,000 animals and families we serve!

## Kudos to Kenosha Toyota

We would like to thank Kenosha Toyota for their outpouring of generosity with their recent gift of \$15,000! Incredibly, their donation also inspired the Toyota Corporation to contribute an additional \$10,000. These amazing gifts will go a long way to helping support many animals in the local community. Thank you, Kenosha Toyota!



## Green Bay Rugby Club Calendar Benefits WHS

2024 started off great before it even began! In the fall of 2023, the Green Bay Rugby Club put together a calendar featuring their talented players and our adorable shelter animals to raise funds for WHS. Thanks to the local businesses who sponsored the costs, 100% of the proceeds from the calendar sales directly benefited the animals in our care! Their amazing fans purchased calendars at games, online, and the WHS Green Bay Campus, raising \$2,720. We are so grateful to the Green Bay Rugby Club for their support, kindness, and generosity!



## Huge thanks to Agropur employees

In January, the WHS Green Bay Campus accepted a generous gift of \$3,946 through Agropur's "We Care We Give" employee fundraising campaign. The Luxemburg company raised funds through donations and hosting fundraising events including flower sales and a brat fry. Thanks Agropur employees for your incredible support!



## Charlie's Party with a Purpose

WHS is incredibly grateful for all the generosity shared by supporters of animals and the people who love them. It's even more awe-inspiring when we see our friends using thoughtful opportunities to spread the word about our work with their extended family and friends. That's exactly what happened with longtime donor, animal advocate, and dog parent, Charles Presta.

To celebrate his milestone 70th birthday, Charlie chose to host a gathering in Racine with music, food, dancing, and fun. In hopes of making the day even more impactful, he encouraged all of his loved ones to support the WHS Racine Campus with a donation, in lieu of gifts for himself. In addition, Charlie welcomed WHS to join the party to speak about the important work happening for animals and their families.

While hearing about things like accessible low-cost vaccine clinics, the increased need for advanced behavioral and veterinary support of sheltered animals, and the systemic challenges facing pets and the people who love them, the crowd fell silent in surprise. For many, they were learning of the crucial and desperate needs of local animals and their families for the first time.

Charlie's efforts that evening brought 42 amazing supporters forward to champion animals and the people who love them, while raising thousands of dollars for the Racine Campus. His decision to host a "Party with a Purpose" will have a lasting ripple effect throughout the community as attendees share and learn more about what they heard that evening. Thank you, Charlie, for your dedication to making a difference and for your belief in our mission!



Hosting a "Party with a Purpose" is a meaningful way of sharing your passion for animals, while making a direct impact on the care and resources animals receive through WHS.

If you'd like to work with a Philanthropic Advisor to host your own "Party with a Purpose," please email [donate@wihumane.org](mailto:donate@wihumane.org) or call 414-431-6175.



# Wild Stories



Check out  
these stories  
about wildlife!



## MIGRATION SEASON IS HAPPENING SOON.

Take action now to help save the birds

Migration time is quickly approaching for many of Wisconsin's bird species! Glass is quite foreign to wild birds and the reflections on our windows can pose a serious hazard as birds are unable to "see" the actual glass until it's too late to avoid a crash. It is particularly hazardous in urban areas where the urban landscape can present itself as a sea of glass and reflective lights, exacerbated by the tall buildings.

We are grateful for our partnership with the Urban Ecology Center on our WIngs (Wisconsin Night Guardians for Songbirds) Program. Wings volunteers go out to monitor key areas of the city to find fallen birds and collect data on specifically where and how birds are found. Those that survive are brought to our Wildlife Rehabilitation Center for treatment with the goal of being released back into the wild once healed. Monitoring can be a tough role, but these important and collaborative efforts help save birds. The program also contributes to a larger scientific knowledgebase to help better understand and mitigate the hazards that these birds face.



Although the Wings program focuses specifically on downtown Milwaukee, ALL windows can be a potential hazard, and simple fixes can have big results. We highly recommend external window clings, window fritting, or even something as temporary as bar soap 'drawn' on the outside of a window to prevent window collisions during peak migration season. Learn more about how to make your windows bird-safe on our website at [www.wihumane.org/wildlife/preventing-window-collisions](http://www.wihumane.org/wildlife/preventing-window-collisions). If you're in the greater Milwaukee area and a bird does fly into your window, please contact our Wildlife Rehabilitation Center at 414-431-6204 to get info on how to safely contain and transport the bird to our wildlife hospital for care.



## WATCH YOUR YARD FOR RABBIT NESTS!



Spring has sprung, and that means baby wild animals are on their way if they haven't arrived already. No need to panic if you do find a nest; know that even if you don't see a mother rabbit immediately around, it is very unlikely that those little bundles of joy are actually orphaned. Mother rabbits usually only return to their nest to feed their young twice per day.

If you find a rabbit's nest in your yard and the babies are uninjured, they should be left alone. No one, even our amazing team of licensed wildlife rehabilitators, can do a better job than mom, and there is no human-made formula that is nearly as good as what she provides. The only time a wildlife rehabilitator needs to get involved is if those babies are injured or truly orphaned. While you should do all you can to avoid touching wildlife unnecessarily, know that a mother will *\*not\** reject her babies just because they have been touched by humans. She definitely will smell that scent, and that will be stressful to her, but her maternal instincts are strong and she will still return to provide care for her babies. If someone has already picked up a baby bunny, but it appears healthy, it needs to be returned to the nest for the greatest chance of survival.

Other things to be aware of regarding bunny nests – be careful when mowing, especially if the grass is long! Nests can be easily hidden by the mother and difficult to see until you're right upon it. If you do accidentally mow over a nest, as long as the babies are uninjured, they can stay there. If any are injured, please contact our Wildlife Rehabilitation Center at 414-431-6204. And what to do if a dog finds the nest? Same plan. Any uninjured bunnies need to be left in the nest and any injured bunnies will need the care of a licensed wildlife rehabilitator.

## HOW DO YOU KEEP DOGS OUT OF A RABBIT NEST IN YOUR YARD?

This is one of the most common questions we get in the warmer months! There are a few different ways our wildlife team has found success keeping dogs out of nests. We understand, dogs do dog things, and a bunny nest is quite the exciting and entertaining find for our canine companions!

- To keep the babies safe from dogs, you can let them outside in a different area or keep them on a leash or long line for the short time the babies are in the nest.
- Another option is to block off the nest in a way that still allows the mother access to it, but not your dogs. Putting up a temporary fence to block your dogs from that area (like a snow fence), can be quite effective.



- Place a laundry basket over the nest when you are outside with your dog. Before the dog goes out, put a laundry basket over the nest with a brick or two on top to hold it in place. Let your dog out, and once they're back in, flip that basket over to ensure the mother can still access the nest.

We understand that every dog is different with different training, skills, and prey drive, but a version of these methods have proven to be effective in keeping pets and baby wildlife safe!

## WILDLIFE BABY SHOWER HELPS PREP FOR THE BUSIEST TIME OF YEAR

Last year, our Wildlife Rehabilitation Center admitted close to 5,000 patients, which is an amazing feat in and of itself, but summer is by far the busiest time of year. An astounding 88% of those patients are admitted between the months of April and September!

During our busiest months, we feed literally hundreds of babies seven days a week. To help support this seasonal change in our workload, seasonal interns and additional volunteers are added to our ranks. Even with the help of these wonderful people, we also need important stuff! Vital items include specialty animal food, nutritionally complete formula, medical supplies like syringes and lactated Ringer's solution, and PPE to ensure the humans working with these animals are safe as well.

These items are critical to our mission and ensure our patients can recover as quickly as possible. How can you help? By donating much-needed items from our Wildlife Babylist at [www.wihumane.org/wildlife](http://www.wihumane.org/wildlife) April 22-30! Your support truly makes this work possible – we couldn't do it without you!





# LEAVING A LEGACY JUST GOT EASIER!



Did you know that only 1 in 3 Americans say they have a will, and that nearly half say they want a will in place but just haven't gotten around to it yet? If you are in this category, you are not alone!

Many of WHS's friends have shared that they would love to ensure animals are cared for into the future, but just aren't sure how or where to start. Leaving a legacy for animals and your loved ones doesn't have to be an expensive or scary task when you use LegacyPlanner™!

Completely free to use on the WHS website, LegacyPlanner™ is a simple, step-by-step online tool to create a legal will that is yours forever. It prompts you with clear and easy to understand questions that walk you through the will creation process from the comfort of wherever you have access to the internet. Whether you use this as your lifelong last will and testament, or as a starting point before meeting with an estate attorney, LegacyPlanner™ is a fantastic and free tool.

Whether you're 29 or 92 years old, or your estate value is \$50 or \$500,000, everyone can and deserves to have a will that leaves

a mark on the world in your own meaningful way. WHS wants to help you ensure that the people, animals, and organizations that mean most to you are proudly honored into the future. Scan the QR code below and get started creating your will for free today.

If you have questions, would like a WHS Planned Giving information packet, or are interested in talking one-on-one with a Philanthropic Advisor, please email [plannedgiving@wihumane.org](mailto:plannedgiving@wihumane.org).



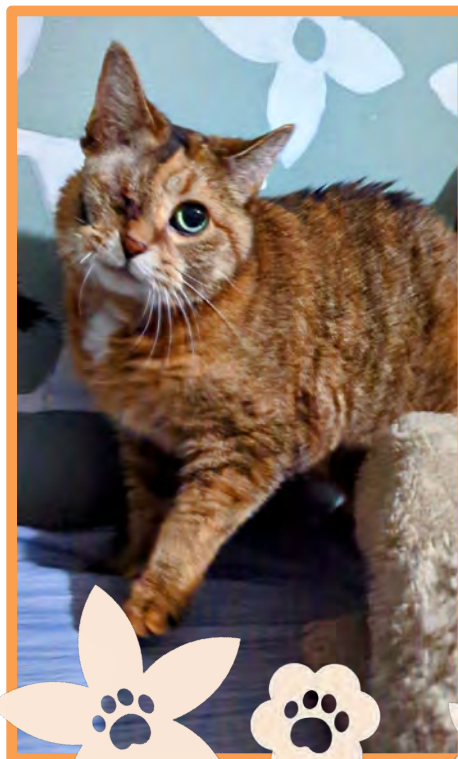
**Have you already created your will and generously included WHS in your plans?**

If so, thank you so very much! We would love for you to share your intent with us, so WHS may either celebrate you now through joining the Buster's Legacy Society, or thank you privately if you wish to remain anonymous. We are endlessly grateful for the meaningful impact you've chosen to make!

## ADOPTION UPDATE: TIGGY

"We wanted to wish you and everyone at the humane society happy holidays, as well as a huge thank you for helping us bring our sweet kitty Tiggy home. He is doing quite well adjusting to our place and his personality has really come through. He still loves his snuggles and crawls all over you when he's getting attention, and he gets the zoomies and plays with us on the daily. Please feel free to share photos! Thank you again for everything."

- Tiggy, Brianna, and Sam



## SAVING C.B.

When 11-year-old C.B. showed up at the shelter, her fur was dirty and unkempt, and one look at her watery eye had our vets suspicious of what they soon confirmed. She had a corneal ulcer that was already fairly advanced. The ulcer proved unresponsive to medication, and our vets removed her eye before the infection could worsen and spread.

Her impressive recovery had her on her way home with a new family less than two weeks later, and she is doing great in her new home. C.B. has had no trouble navigating her surroundings with one eye and has been making the house more her own every day. Way to go, sweet girl!

## LUNA LATTE

Luna Latte was in some sort of altercation with another animal before she was discovered and brought to our Green Bay Campus. She had wounds on her neck and a severely damaged lip that was showing signs of infection. Further damage was being done by botflies, a highly unpleasant larva that requires the body of a mammal to complete its life cycle (take our word for it - it's not a fun Google search!). The poor kitten was miserable and in desperate need of care.

Thankfully, Luna Latte was in expert hands. She was quickly sedated for surgery to address her problems. She woke up with cleaned-up wounds, a few new stitches, and was parasite-free. Our little patient was such a trouper as she recovered.

After making a full recovery, Luna Latte joined a family as the fourth and youngest member of the pack, along with another cat and two dogs. The dogs accepted her immediately, and after 48 hours of complaints and concerns from the older cat, the two began to play. They have been inseparable ever since and we could not be happier to hear it! Thank you for the support that makes lifesaving care like this possible.



## LOVIE'S LONG RECOVERY



Lovie arrived at our Milwaukee Campus underweight with infected ears, a runny nose, patches of missing fur, and gastrointestinal issues. While our veterinary team set up a care plan, our foster department found a temporary home that would help Lovie on her road to recovery. After two months of regular check-ups with our vets and lots of foster love, Lovie was transformed.

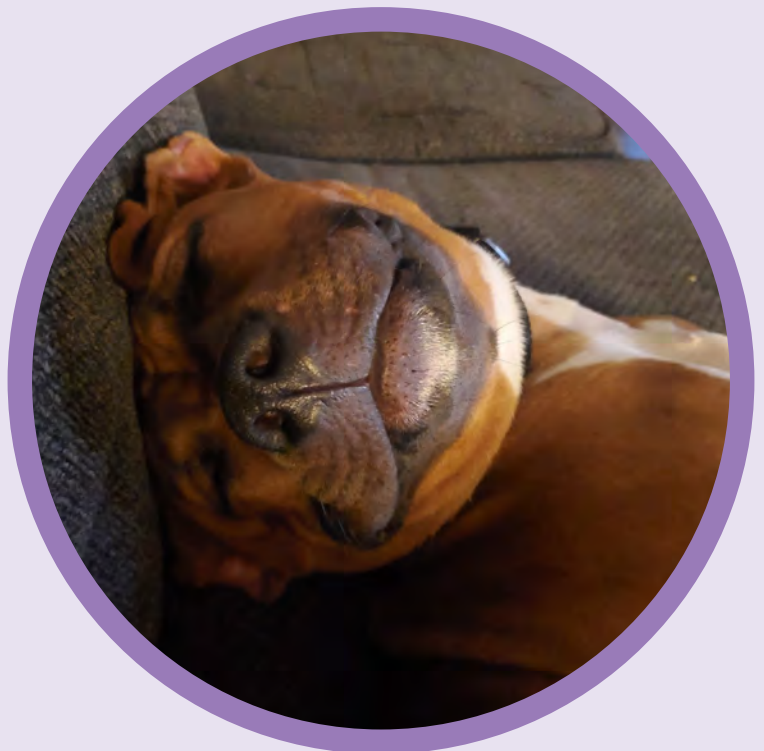
Gaining 23lbs and feeling as good as she looked, she had also found her way into the hearts of her foster family, who officially adopted her when the time came. She now happily spends her time getting belly rubs, going for car rides, and taking leisurely walks around the neighborhood to ensure that everything has been properly sniffed.

We're so happy for Lovie and her family, and we wish them years of happy memories ahead! If you are interested in fostering animals in need, we'd love for you to join our fabulous foster network. Whether it's a few days or weeks, fostering helps the individual animal, and opens up another kennel for an animal in need. Learn more at [www.wihumane.org/foster](http://www.wihumane.org/foster).

## FREYJA SURVIVES PARVOVIRUS - AND IS THRIVING TODAY

Upon her arrival at the Milwaukee Campus, Freyja was terribly weak, hadn't eaten in days, and was experiencing severe gastrointestinal issues. Testing confirmed that 8-month-old Freyja was positive for parvovirus. This highly contagious and deadly virus is easily spread between dogs, leading to a host of problems and is often fatal, especially in puppies. There is no cure, but some dogs can be saved with supportive care. Thankfully, our veterinary team was able to provide Freyja with the care she needed before things took a turn for the worse.

With all of that behind her, Freyja is now the newest -- and smiliest -- member of one very lucky family. They tell us she seems to love every person and dog she meets on her daily walks, and that her personality really shines at her favorite destinations: the local dog-friendly tavern and adjacent park. At home, she is equally eager to cuddle on the couch or prove just how much of the bed she can take up, and her family wouldn't have it any other way. Congratulations, Freyja! May your future be filled with all the new friends and cuddles you could dream of!





## SAVE THE DATE

Pet Walk is our annual family-friendly walk and festival hosted in each community we serve to raise funds for the Wisconsin Humane Society. The event includes a walk through the park, followed by music, entertainment, vendors and exhibitors, contests, food and beverages, and plenty of fun for the whole family. Animal lovers of all ages are welcome, and leashed and well-behaved pets are invited to join in the fun as well!

### Pet Walk Green Bay - 25th Anniversary! -

Sunday, June 2, 2024  
Pamperin Park, Green Bay

### Pet Walk Milwaukee

Saturday, June 15, 2024  
Veterans Park, Milwaukee's Lakefront

DID YOU KNOW? WHS also hosts three additional Pet Walks in August and September for the Ozaukee, Door County, and Racine/Kenosha communities. Learn more and find a Pet Walk near you at [www.wihumane.org/petwalk](http://www.wihumane.org/petwalk) today!

### DON'T MISS OUR OTHER UPCOMING FUNDRAISERS:

#### MAY 2024



**Door County Rummage Sale**  
May 3-4, 2024  
Arle Memorial Hall, Sturgeon Bay

#### OCTOBER 2024



**Paws & Claws Gala**  
October 19, 2024  
The Pfister Hotel, Milwaukee

#### NOVEMBER 2024



**Holiday Bingo Extravaganza!**  
Thursday, November 14, 2024  
Stadium View, Green Bay

Learn more at [www.wihumane.org/events](http://www.wihumane.org/events).

## CALLING ALL RESTAURANTS, BREWERIES, CAFÉS, AND LOCAL BUSINESSES!

Are you looking for a unique way to support the animals at the Wisconsin Humane Society? Host a giveback day, week, or month where you commit to donating a certain percentage back to WHS. We can even help promote your event on our website! For more information, please contact Meredith at [mkopca@wihumane.org](mailto:mkopca@wihumane.org).



## A TRIBUTE TO PETS FOR LIFE FRIEND, ROBERT

The Pets for Life (PFL) team met Robert and his dogs in 2014 while knocking on doors in the community. Over the next nine years, Robert would reach out at least once a month for advice, support, and just to thank us for being there. Our PFL team partnered with him to provide spay/neuter services, minor medical treatments, and even end-of-life care for his beloved dogs. It was a joy getting to know Robert and witnessing the unconditional love he had for the dogs who came into his life over the years.

Near the end of 2023, Robert's mom reached out and shared the heartbreaking news that Robert had passed away. She found a note that he left, directing her to contact our Pets for Life team for support for his dogs which we were more than happy to provide.

We are grateful for the time we were able to share with Robert and his dogs. He was an incredibly kind and caring person, who would go to great lengths to ensure his dogs were well cared for, even in his absence.

