



**WISCONSIN**  
humane society



# Critter Chronicles

Winter 23 | Vol 40 Issue 4

- ADOPTION UPDATE: DECO
- 277 PETS VACCINATED IN ONE DAY
- SAVE MONEY - AND LIVES - WHILE YOU SHOP

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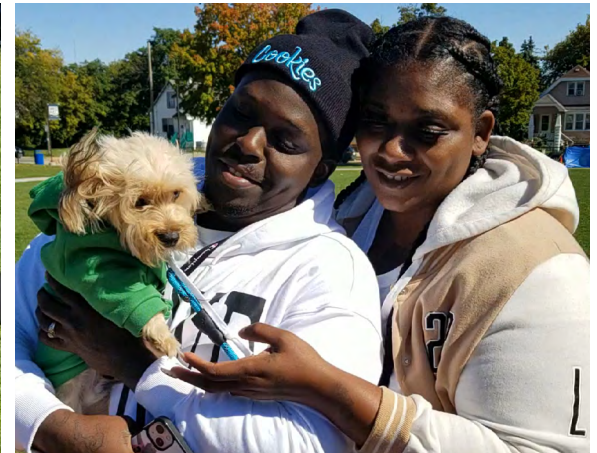
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**PETS FOR LIFE OUTREACH EVENT**

On Saturday, October 7, our Pets for Life program hosted an outreach event for dogs and cats in our Milwaukee focus community. In just three hours, we provided vaccines to 277 pets! These events provide an opportunity for us to meet new community members and their animals, while reconnecting with families we've partnered with through our program since it launched in 2012.

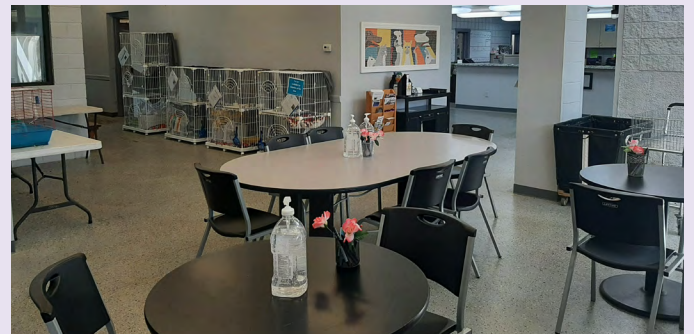
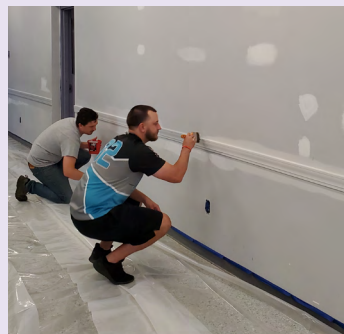
Our Pets for Life team maintains a consistent community presence and builds relationships through door-to-door outreach, events, and consistent follow-up conversations. There is not a single veterinary clinic in the neighborhoods we serve, and families in the community face many systemic barriers like transportation and costs to access important services for the animals they love.



Events like this help remove those barriers and connect families with important resources to keep their pets happy, healthy, and in their homes. We are so grateful to the Banfield Foundation for their gift of \$10,000 in support of the program, and to all of the community members and volunteers who joined us at the event!

**KENOSHA CAMPUS GETS A REFRESH!**

Recently, the WHS Kenosha Campus hosted CCB Technology staff who gave the entire lobby and hallway a much-needed coat of fresh paint. This was a huge help and saved our staff a ton of time, allowing us to focus our efforts on other projects and caring for the animals. The whole lobby looks fantastic and is much brighter, ready to welcome clients into the building. Stop in to see for yourself all the upgrades happening in Kenosha!





## NEARLY 100 CATS BROUGHT TO WHS FROM SINGLE HOME

This fall, nearly 100 cats and kittens were removed from a single residence in southeastern Wisconsin and brought to WHS. Among the first to arrive were several nursing mothers and their newborn kittens, as it was most urgent to get these fragile little ones into a healthier environment as soon as possible.

Most of the adults have been understandably wary of humans and require ongoing treatment for eye infections, severe digestive troubles, and more. Some of the cats were able to move into our adoption program quickly and have already found homes, but many have required several weeks of ongoing care.

Big Sonya was just 4 months old when she arrived along with all the others from this

case. Thanks to the collaborative efforts of the family, local officials, and the WHS team, Big Sonya and her former housemates met with our veterinarians, received the

vital medical attention and treatments they required, and got some time to adjust to less crowded conditions under the care of some of our many loving foster families. She blossomed in her time with us, and her undeniably sweet nature won the hearts of a family who took her home as soon as we cleared her for adoption!



Big Sonya found a loving home!

If you or someone you know is struggling to care for more animals than seems healthy, it's vital to speak up and seek assistance for this complex and challenging issue. Not only for the well-being of the animals, but also for the safety of the humans in the home who may need support. You can contact a mental health professional, local law enforcement, the Wisconsin Humane Society directly, or the shelter nearest you for help.

## LITTLE BROWN BAT

This Little Brown Bat, which is a state-threatened species, was admitted emaciated, weak, and missing a significant amount of fur. His before pictures show just how awful this poor little guy looked and felt; he weighed in at less than 5 grams.

Our team of dedicated, licensed wildlife rehabilitators worked diligently and patiently to help him regain weight and strength. We were so thrilled when he finally began to feel well enough to eat on his own and no longer needed to be hand-fed his mealworms anymore. Slowly but surely, he went from emaciated to pleasantly plump, and from missing fur to having a dense, velvety coat again.

Once he was fully recovered, he got some pre-release flight conditioning (which he excelled at) and was taken right back to his roost site to reconnect with his colony! This is a species that few rehabilitators in the state have experience with, and we were honored to care for the tiny fellow. Thank you for making this important work possible!



## SAVE MONEY – AND LIVES – WHILE YOU SHOP!

Did you know that the Wisconsin Humane Society has retail stores at all six of our sheltering locations, and a robust online shop, as well?

At [shop.wihumane.org](http://shop.wihumane.org), you'll find thousands of pet supply products and merchandise for the same (or even cheaper) pricing than you might find through the major online retailers! Whether you need dog food, cat treats, kitty litter, leashes, cat towers, or canine apparel, we truly have it all. Rather than having your money go to a large corporation, shopping through our website sends 100% of proceeds to homeless animals right here in our community. With free shipping on all orders of \$69 or more, you can stock up on all your pet's favorites and have them sent straight to your door.

Don't have a pet right now? We also have new human apparel launching monthly, tons of great gifts, and locally made products. Be sure to keep us in mind the next time you're shopping!



[shop.wihumane.org](http://shop.wihumane.org)

## Q&A: BALANCED FATS AND YOUR DOG'S DIET

### What is Omega-3?

Omega fatty acids are found in polyunsaturated fats and are categorized in two ways: Omega-3 and Omega-6. Dogs can only obtain many fatty acids through their diet, and one known source for Omega-3 fatty acids is high-quality fish oil.

### What are the benefits of balanced fats?

By increasing your dog's Omega-3 levels and lowering the ratio between the two fats, studies\* have shown improvements in dogs' immune system responses, increased joint health, and healthier skin and coats.

### What are the benefits of optimal Omega-3 levels?

Omega-3 is designed to bridge the nutritional gap and help support heart health, ease of movement, the central nervous system, brain development in puppies and kittens, overall quality of life, and more.

### How do I know if my dog needs Omega-3 supplements?

It's important to talk to your veterinarian about your pet's physical condition, lifestyle, and diet to decide if supplementation is right for your pup.

### Where can I get Omega-3 supplements?

Once your vet has determined the appropriate supplementation plan and dosage, you can visit [shop.wihumane.org](http://shop.wihumane.org) to find the "Supplements & Treatments" section under the Dogs category. WHS carries a wide array of supportive products, including formulas by Wisconsin's own Standard Process. By shopping through our website, 100% of proceeds come straight back to the animals at WHS.



To read more about Standard Process' clinical study on Omega-3, please visit:

<https://my.standardprocess.com/Products/Literature/VF-Omega-3-White-Paper>

## CELEBRATING SENIOR ANIMALS WITH SALLY & DAVID MOSKOL

Back in 2017, long-time WHS supporters, Sally and David Moskol, reached out for ways to help senior shelter dogs find their next loving homes. Soon after, a program called Sally's Senior Picks was born. Every month, Sally works with WHS staff to highlight a senior dog who is available for adoption in hopes of finding them a family and shortening their time spent in the shelter.

Sally loves coming in each month and connecting with these senior pups. She states "I've noticed something about these dogs, they seem to have confidence that whatever comes next will be Good with a capital G! They have often been treated with love and readily offer kisses and paws. So, we shake on it, and get to work to find them a match."



Sally Moskol snuggling with senior dog Bailey

Many of these seniors tend to spend a longer time in the shelter than most younger animals, and Sally cares deeply about sharing the benefits of adopting older pets and bringing attention to these amazing animals. These loving companions come from a variety of backgrounds and can often be calmer and more relaxed than a younger pet, making them great additions to many families.

One senior, Wotan, was a lovable pooch highlighted as Sally's Senior Pick back in May. Sally shared our post about him on her personal Facebook page and, within a few hours, received a phone call from her cousin, Robin. "Sally, I saw your post about Wotan. I want that dog!" Robin said. Sally encouraged Robin and her husband, Jim, to go to the WHS Milwaukee Campus the very next day to meet him in person.

Robin had been looking for the right dog for about two years to fill their empty nest,

but Jim wasn't sure about the idea. It all changed the day they met Wotan. The lovable pup's ever-wagging tail and gentle spirit made the decision very easy for the couple; they took Wotan home that day. Robin and Jim are seniors themselves, currently in their 70's, and did not want the commotion nor training responsibility of a puppy. "I love him so much, I couldn't be happier," said Robin. Soon after Wotan settled in, Robin and Jim's grandchildren came for visits from Florida and California. Everyone got along great, including the littlest granddaughter who just wanted to cuddle with Wotan.

Sally absolutely loves having one of her Senior Picks in the family and enjoys going to visit him. "It's like he understands every word you say," Sally said. "I love how he welcomes everyone at the front door, just wagging his tail and quietly waiting for you to come in to chat!"

Wotan is just one example of the many senior dogs who enter our doors and find new loving homes. If you're thinking of adopting an animal, please consider a senior – you might be surprised by how well they fit into your life. Be sure to follow Wisconsin Humane Society on Facebook for future Sally's Senior Picks, and share their stories to help each silver-faced sweetheart find their match!



Robin & Jim with their senior pup Wontan

## THANK YOU, MILWAUKEE BREWERS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION!



WHS is once again floored by the steadfast support of the Milwaukee Brewers Community Foundation! They hosted yet another Brewers Supply Drive earlier this year for animals in need, collecting five bins full of food, treats, toys, and supplies. The generous gifts directly support shelter animals and the WHS pet food pantry, which is open to community members with pets in need. During the supply drive, an additional \$5,713 was raised to support the work of WHS, thanks to generous donors!

Further, the Brewers Wives joined us at the WHS Milwaukee Campus for a volunteer day and helped assemble Kuranda beds for the dogs in our care. Specially designed for shelters, these beds are exceptionally durable, keep the dogs off the cold floor, and are easily sanitized to prevent disease transmission. Members of the Brewers Community Foundation also joined us to volunteer not once but twice to assemble even more beds, saving our team countless hours of labor and enabling us to focus on animal care instead.

Lastly, WHS is so thankful to the Brewers Community Foundation for their generous grant support, helping to fund WHS Youth Programs and our Youth Scholarship program. The \$10,000 grant from the Brewers Community Foundation will provide scholarships to kids who would otherwise not be able to attend youth programs due to financial barriers, allowing them the opportunity to explore future careers in animal care and how they can help pets and families in their neighborhoods. We can't thank you enough!

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT: UW VET MEDICINE PARTNERSHIP WITH WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT

We are so proud of a partnership we have cultivated with the University of Wisconsin-Madison's School of Veterinary Medicine (UW-SVM). Through this partnership, UW-SVM visits our wildlife hospital frequently to assist with patient medical care. Not only do their extremely skilled and knowledgeable veterinarians provide medical services, but they also bring different veterinary students for a two-week training rotation, as well! This is truly a win-win for people and our wild patients.

Our licensed wildlife rehabilitators work alongside UW-SVM veterinarians to provide excellent patient care and help train future vets. This is our third year in this partnership, and we are so grateful for the collaborative learning environment, excellent networking, and quality of care we are able to provide together.

Another exciting component is getting to reconnect with veterinary students who have interacted with WHS in the past. Pictured are Macy and Samuel, both of whom were previous volunteers at our Wildlife Rehabilitation Center - and look where they are now: veterinary students who are very close to completing their degrees! Wildlife medicine is so complex and unique, and we are honored and delighted to be able to provide great care to wild patients today and help ensure a promising future for the patients of tomorrow.



## JOIN US FOR DOG OR PUPPY TRAINING

The Wisconsin Humane Society is thrilled to offer a variety of training options for dogs of all breeds, ages, and learning levels. WHS is proud to use exemplary, reward-based training techniques and a focus on building the bond between dogs and their owners, cultivating relaxation in new spaces, and basic manners that translate into real-life scenarios.

### UPCOMING TRAINING CLASSES

Below are the start dates of each 6-week session:

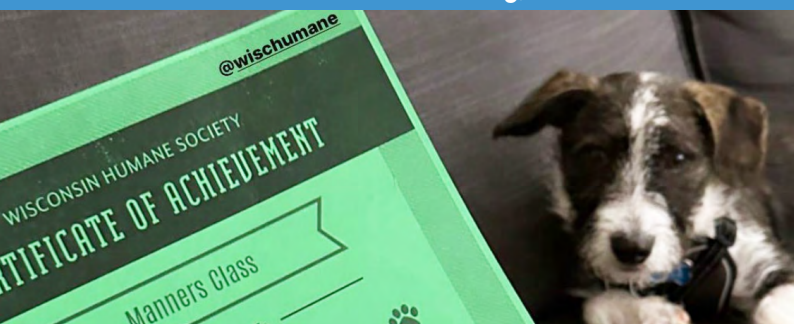
#### Manners Class

Thursday, January 4 at 7pm | Milwaukee Campus  
Wednesday, January 10 at 5:30pm | Ozaukee Campus  
Saturday, January 13 at 10am | Milwaukee Campus  
Monday, January 15 at 7pm | Milwaukee Campus  
Wednesday, January 31 at 8:15pm | Milwaukee Campus

#### Puppy Class

Thursday, January 4 at 8:15pm | Milwaukee Campus  
Wednesday, January 10 at 6:45pm | Ozaukee Campus  
Saturday, January 13 at 11:15am | Milwaukee Campus  
Monday, January 15 at 8:15pm | Milwaukee Campus  
Wednesday, January 31 at 7pm | Milwaukee Campus

ENROLL TODAY AT [wihumane.org/behavior](http://wihumane.org/behavior)



## RACINE CAMPUS BREAKS ADOPTION RECORD

Since moving into the new building in 2020, the Wisconsin Humane Racine Campus has been working to increase the services we offer, including youth programs, vaccine clinics, stray reunions, affordable spay/neuter, and adoptions. As we approached the final days of our fiscal year in September, we realized we were rapidly approaching a milestone: if we could reach 1,412 adoptions before month's end, it would be the most successful adoption year since acquiring the Racine Campus in 2013. Our team rallied around the goal, and everyone joined in the excitement as the countdown began.

On September 21, Lola (formerly known as Regan) became the 1,412th adoption and made history! The 3-year-old pup has since settled into her new home and her adopters report she's been a truly wonderful addition to their family.

One of our longtime dog-walking volunteers, Dave Nelson, was thrilled about us reaching this historic moment and wanted to keep the momentum going. Dave generously pledged to donate for every additional dog adopted through the end of the month! After all was said and done, the WHS Racine Campus celebrated an incredible 1,460 adoptions this fiscal year and we could not be more thrilled for all those animals and families who found love. Thank you so much to our hard-working staff members, volunteers, donors, adopters, and supporters for making this possible!



## ADOPTION UPDATES!

### LOKI Green Bay Campus



"Loki is a fun and energetic dog that is so curious and spunky! He is fitting into our home with ease and we couldn't love him more! We just adopted him and we have already had our hearts stolen by him! He will be a spoiled baby in our home!" - Carissa

### DECO Ozaukee Campus



"Deco was an injured stray when we adopted him and has one missing eye. But the loss of his eye hasn't stopped him one bit. We tried our best to keep Deco separated from our resident cats when he first arrived in our home, but after two days, he wasn't having any of that and insisted on meeting his new friends. He immediately became best buds with them, running, playing, grooming, etc. Deco has the biggest, kindest heart. Not once has he hissed or swiped at our other cats. He simply wants to play, play, play all day. He's a very vocal kitty. His wonderful, high-pitched trills melt our hearts and we always talk back to him, having long conversations.

Needless to say, we are very proud to have Deco in our lives and it feels so good to know that he has found his forever home with us. Thank you for everything all of you do at the Humane Society. From the employees to the volunteers, we can't tell you how grateful we are for your organization. Thank you for caring for Deco when he was with you and for performing the surgery to remove his damaged eye. And thank you for trusting us with his care for the rest of his life now." - Jeff

### MOJO Racine Campus



Mojo arrived at the WHS Racine Campus as a stray with scabs and wounds across his face, including a puncture to his cheek that was surgically repaired by our veterinary team before he found a fantastic home. Here's what his family had to say: "Mojo is the sweetest and most easy-going cat I have ever owned. My vet indicated that he is a very nice cat and is healing well. He is so affectionate. He and my dog, Jack, are getting along well for such a short time. Mojo loves to give kisses and he is very smart. I am so happy that I was able to rescue him. Love this little man. He is so silly. Loves to chase his tail and he has taken over the dogs' bed. Thank you so much." - Karen



### AUGIE Door County Campus



"Hi, I'm Augie. I was adopted on April 21, 2023, with help from Lyndsey B. at the WHS Door County Campus... I've got two cats as my new friends, and we get along very good together. Me and my people go camping and for walks. I enjoy sitting by the campfire. Just give me a chair, and I make myself at home. My yard gives me room to run and just chill out. This winter should be interesting, as I'm from Arkansas. As long as I have a lap to curl up on, I'll stay warm. Here are some pictures of my new life."

### BOSS Kenosha Campus



"Going on 7 years since I met Boss at this shelter. Best decision I made in my life. He is my world. Best friend. Soul dog. Family and friends adore him. Thank you sooo much for my best friend." - Jamie

### LOUIE Milwaukee Campus



"I adopted Louie in mid-June of this year and first I would just like to say a huge thank you to Rebecca, the adoption counselor that helped me. I came in with 2 other cats in mind but as soon as I met Louie, I think she knew that he was the boy for me. I came back the next day after meeting him and ended up taking him home right away. I adopted him knowing he was older, a little overweight, and having some over-stimulation and litter box issues, but I just had a gut feeling it was from not being in the right home for him.

The first week or so, he was a little hesitant getting used to his surroundings, but as soon as he realized this was his new home, he got super comfortable and I could tell he was so much happier. ... Now he will walk right up to me and roll on his back for endless belly pets and head scratches. He also went from sleeping under the bed to sleeping right next to my head, and I can happily say he has not had a single litter box issue since I have brought him home. He is still super talkative and will let you know when he is walking into a room - he will always be the center of attention in my home. Thank you so much Rebecca and the entire team at the Milwaukee Campus. Louie and I are both so happy we found each other." - Kayla

## FUN WAYS TO SUPPORT SHELTER ANIMALS!

Find a fundraiser below that piques your interest, then head to [wihumane.org/events](http://wihumane.org/events) for dates and locations near you!

**ONLINE AUCTIONS** | Bid on fabulous packages from the comfort of your own home while helping the animals at the Wisconsin Humane Society; there's truly something for everyone!

**RUMMAGE SALE** | Shop 'till you drop at the annual rummage sale held at the Arle Memorial Hall in Sturgeon Bay the first weekend in May.

**WHS & FOX6 PET TELETHON** | Tune in on Friday, March 8 for inspirational stories and countless ways to help us provide lifesaving care to thousands of animals who need it most.

**PET WALK** | Our annual, family-friendly run/walk fundraisers boast a festival with music, vendors, exhibitors, contests, food, beverages, and fun for the whole family. Leashed and well-behaved pets are welcome, but not required to attend. Pet Walks are held in multiple communities throughout the summer and fall.

**COMMUNITY GIVEBACK DAY** | Shop at your favorite business or order a delicious meal at a participating restaurant, and a portion of the proceeds will benefit WHS during a Community Giveback Day!

**PAWS & CLAWS GALA** | Held at the historic Pfister Hotel in Milwaukee every October, our Paws & Claws Gala features a cocktail reception, silent and live auctions, raffles and games, formal dinner, and a program. Did we mention that it's also the only gala in town where you can mingle with shelter pups and some of our absolute best animal ambassadors?

**HOLIDAY BINGO EXTRAVAGANZA** | Kick off the holiday season this November at our annual Holiday Bingo Extravaganza in Green Bay. This fun-filled night starts off with a buffet dinner followed by a variety of raffles, silent auction, and Bingo, of course!



Learn more and view all event dates and details at: [www.wihumane.org/events](http://www.wihumane.org/events)

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG ANIMAL LOVERS

At the Wisconsin Humane Society, winter is a magical time for young people to explore their love for animals. We have lots of fun activities to participate in at our Milwaukee, Ozaukee, and Racine Campuses, including:



### BIRTHDAY PARTIES

Host a fun-filled birthday party for a young person turning ages 6-12! Our party packages take care of all the details so you can just bring your guests and enjoy.

### GIRL SCOUT NIGHTS

Each reservation includes access to a digital platform with level-focused activities that outline everything Girl Scouts need to complete their badge or journey. We even offer exclusive WHS-specific fun, too!

### CAMPS

Join our Bow Wow Blizzard Camp on Wednesday, December 27! Kids in grades 1-6 are invited to join us for a fun-filled day of furry friends, crafts, and games.

### KIDS NIGHT OUT

Hosted every second Friday of the month from 5-7:30 p.m., these exciting evenings offer a new theme and fun activities each time, ensuring our guests are excited to come back time and time again.

To share this info or gift a WHS experience to a young person in your life, please visit [www.wihumane.org/for-kids](http://www.wihumane.org/for-kids)