

animal TRIBUNE

New Feline Communal Room & Your Opportunity to Name the Room

A few months ago, Coulee Region Humane Society (CRHS) staff and volunteers began to plan for a space that would allow cats to co-exist together in a more natural environment. After much research, a plan was developed to move forward with creating this, from which cats living at the shelter would benefit for years to come.

Construction began in early February and was completed by the end of February. The space that has been created provides multiple benefits to cats and small animals residing at CRHS, including:

*increased awareness for cats that tend to wait longer for adoption such as black cats, tortoiseshell cats, and older cats. Experience tells us that these longer term cats will be healthier when living in a more natural environment with windows, perches, and other cats. In addition, they can be viewed and met in an environment where their personalities emerge and where a relationship with the adopter can begin. Someone who may not stop at the cage of an "ordinary" black cat can be charmed by its style and charisma in this social setting.

*increased attention for adult cats. Creating this new space allowed us to also create two, larger rooms

to house adoptable cats, kittens, and small animals such as rabbits, birds, gerbils and hamsters. The adult cats live in the first adoption room, resulting in adopters seeing them first. The kittens and small animals live in the second, separate adoption room. Prior to this renovation, small animals were tucked away in a room that was neither visible nor readily accessible to the public. Now, small animals are seen almost immediately, which we hope will increase their adoption rates and the visitor's overall awareness that these little critters are in search of homes, too.

*segregation of kittens from cats should reduce the spread of Upper Respiratory Infection to adoptable adult cats.

We have applied for grants and have used previous donations that were specified for cats. However, we hope to raise additional dollars to help cover the cost of this room as the total renovation cost was a little over \$14,000. Currently, the room is simply being called the Feline Communal Room. Beginning April 14th, 2008, we began an auction for naming rights to this room. The auction will last until May 14th, 2008. To bid on naming rights to this room, you can call or email Marcia Christman at 608-781-4014 or marcia.christman@couleehumane.com

(in her absence, if you call, you may ask for Heather Schmid). The rules are very simple:

- bidding will begin at \$250 for naming rights to the room
- anyone wishing to bid on naming rights will need to provide their name, address, and phone number
- the highest bidder will need to choose a name for this room that is professional and meets the approval of CRHS
- the highest bid will be updated on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday of every week through May 14th, 2008, on CRHS's website www.couleehumane.com
- bidding will close at the end of business for CRHS on Wednesday, May 14th, 2008, at 5:00pm
- the highest bidder will be announced on our website by 9:00am on Thursday, May 15th, 2008

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Healthy People, Healthy Pets Initiative

We are excited to announce an initiative that will promote healthy living for both people and their pets. This initiative, "Healthy People, Healthy Pets," will begin on May 3rd, 2008, and end on August 9th, 2008, at Bark in the Park. This initiative, developed with members of the Coulee Region Veterinary Medical Association, Coulee Region Humane Society, and the La Crosse Area Family YMCA, will promote overall wellness including exercise, healthy eating, and healthy body weight. People will learn how to better care for themselves and their pets through information shared with them, with an emphasis on proper diet and exercise.

If you would like to participate, you and your pet will need to register (no fee to participate) and follow the guidelines set forth for both of you, including checking in monthly with staff from the YMCA and local veterinarian clinics, keeping a diary, and exercising. At the time of your initial check-in, the recommended weight range for both you and your pet will be explained and a goal will be set for this three month program.

The La Crosse Area YMCA will assist you with your goals, and local veterinarians will assist you with your pet's goals. Everyone who participates can be successful, everyone can be a winner. If you and your pet as a team fulfill the expectations set forth for both of you, you will achieve success and be recognized for this.

To participate, you will need to be able to attend the initial check-in on May 3rd, the final check-in on August 9th, and one of the two dates offered in each of May and June. The dates, locations, and times for the check-ins are as follows:

May 3rd, YMCA La Crosse Branch, 9:00am
 May 27th, Coulee Region Humane Society, 5:30pm
 May 31st, Coulee Region Humane Society, 9:00am
 June 24th, Coulee Region Humane Society, 5:30pm
 June 28th, Coulee Region Humane Society, 9:00am
 August 9th, Coulee Region Humane Society's Bark in the Park, Copeland Park, 9:00am

Each team that successfully reaches their goals will be recognized with the following:

- One month free YMCA membership
- Three month supply of food for your pet from one of the participating veterinarians
- Gift certificate to the Coulee Region Humane Society
- Recognition in the Coulee Region Humane Society's Animal Tribune Fall 2008 edition

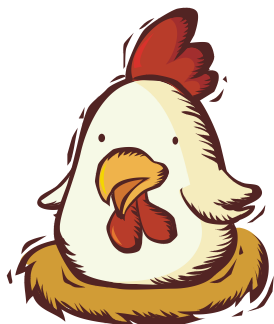


Registration materials will be available at the Coulee Region Humane Society and both the YMCA-La Crosse and YMCA-North locations beginning Monday, April 28th, 2008. You may register for this during hours of operation or the day of the first check-in on May 3rd.

Our goal with this initiative is to encourage and provide the tools to take better care of both you and your pet.

If you have questions about this, please contact Heather Schmid at heather.schmid@couleehumane.com or 608-781-4014.

Chicken Q Fundraiser



On Saturday, May 31st, 2008, from 11am – 5pm, CRHS will be holding a Chicken Q fundraiser. It will be located at Sam's Club in Onalaska. Tickets will be \$7.50 and are available at the Humane Society. Dinners will be available for sale the day of the event if we do not sell out before hand. Delivery of the dinners will be available to individuals/groups who order 5 or more dinners (delivery to one location per individual/group order). Also, we are eligible to receive a matching grant from Sam's Club for all money raised at the Chicken Q, so we will have shelter items available for sale as well. Please watch our website for additional details. If interested in volunteering at the fundraiser, please contact Kelly Dvorak, CRHS Volunteer Coordinator, at 781-4014. All proceeds benefit CRHS.

Calendar of Events

April

Animal Cruelty Prevention Month
Membership renewals are due
April 14, Auction for Naming Rights of Feline Communal Room begins
April 28 – May 4, National Volunteer Week

May

May 2 – May 4, PetSmart National Adoption Days
May 3, La Crosse Fairgrounds Speedway "Pit Stop for Pets" Night benefiting CRHS
May 3, Healthy People, Healthy Pets Kickoff at YMCA in La Crosse
May 4 – 10, Be Kind to Animals Week
May 11 – 17, National Pet Week
May 14, Auction for Naming Rights of Feline Communal Room ends
May 18 – 24, National Dog Bite Prevention Week
May 26, Memorial Day, CRHS will be closed to observe the holiday
May 27 & May 31, Check-in for Healthy People, Healthy Pets at CRHS
May 31, Chicken Q at Sam's Club in Onalaska

June

Adopt A Shelter Cat Month
June 14, Brat Barn Fundraiser at Holmen Festival Foods
June 24 & June 28, Check-in for Healthy People, Healthy Pets at CRHS
June 26, Yappy Hour at Stoney Creek Inn
June 27, National Take Your Dog to Work Day
June 28 – 29, 4th Annual Adoptathon

July

July 4, Independence Day, CRHS will be closed to observe the holiday

August

August 9, Bark in the Park (new location – Copeland Park)
August 9, Check-in for Healthy People, Healthy Pets at Bark in the Park
August 15 – 16, Sand on the Riverfront
August 16, National Homeless Animals Day
August 30, Diggity Dog Dip at Onalaska Aquatic Center

For more information on start dates and times of training classes offered at CRHS for you and your dog, visit our website and click on the "Training and Behavior" link.

Our thanks to
Holmen Meat
Locker for
donating bones to
dogs in our care!

Bark in the Park – Save the Date

Bark in the Park will be held on August 9, 2008, at **Copeland Park**. Please note that we will be switching the venue for this event from Riverside Park to Copeland Park. Event information will be available as the event draws closer.

"Pit Stop for Pets" at La Crosse Fairgrounds Speedway

Let's go racing!!! Join us on Saturday, May 3rd, 2008, at La Crosse Fairgrounds Speedway to partake in "Pit Stop for Pets" night to benefit animals in need throughout the Coulee Region. Admission will be \$5.00 (normally \$10.00) if you bring an item from our wish list. Some of the urgently needed wish list items are:

- Bleach
- Dry Dog and Puppy Food (Science Diet, Eukanuba, Purina)
- Clay Cat Litter
- Dry Cat and Kitten Food (Science Diet, Eukanuba, PetSmart Authority, Purina)
- Paper Toweling
- Chicken Flavored Baby Food
- Canned Cat Food (Mixed Grill, Country Dinner)
- Dryer Sheets
- Canned Dog Food (Pedigree, Iams, Eukanuba, Alpo, Purina)

Pet Therapy dogs will also be at the fundraiser. For more information on race times, visit www.lacrossespeedway.com or call 786-1525. We hope to go racing with you!

Cloud Star Fundraiser

We are currently working with Cloud Star to raise funds for our organization. According to their website (www.cloudstar.com), Cloud Star was founded from a shelter dog named Samantha. Samantha's family, after adopting her, found her to be a finicky eater, among other concerns. After trying many commercially made treats that did not agree with Samantha, her family decided to try and bake their own treats for her in their home. Many taste tests later, Buddy Biscuits were born. From Buddy Biscuits, came an extensive line of other treats, food, and supplies.

We are excited to participate in this fundraiser. And, we hope that you will want to as well. It is very simple:

1. Stop by or call the shelter to obtain a book with products available for purchase.
2. Fill out an order form, available through our organization (all orders over \$50 will not incur any shipping and handling fees; shipping is \$6.00 for all orders under \$50).
3. Turn in payment, order form, and product book to Marcia Christman.
4. Once we have individual orders totaling \$500 or more, we will submit them to Cloud Star.
5. Cloud Star will ship your order directly to your home.
6. 25% of all orders before shipping are donated to Coulee Region Humane Society.



Brat Barn at Festival Foods in Holmen

On Saturday, June 14th, 2008, we will hold a brat barn sale at the Festival Foods in Holmen. The brat barn sale will begin at 11:00am and end at 6:00pm. The proceeds from this sale will benefit our spay/neuter program which will allow us to assist those who are not in a financial position to spay or neuter their pet. Pet therapy teams will also be joining this effort, weather permitting, so this is an excellent time to stop by and meet our wonderful teams who give of themselves unconditionally to our community every day.

4th Annual Adoptathon

We will be holding our Fourth Annual Adoptathon June 28th – June 29th! So, what is an Adoptathon? In 1995, the North Shore Animal League America developed an idea that has spread through every state within the United States and over 23 countries worldwide with over 1,500 organizations participating!! Animal shelters have implemented the idea that began in 1995 which was to find a loving home for every adoptable animal in the care of the North Shore Animal League. During that weekend in 1995, the League adopted out over 500 animals (for more information on the National Adoptathon, visit http://www.nsalamerica.org/how_we_help/adoptathon/).

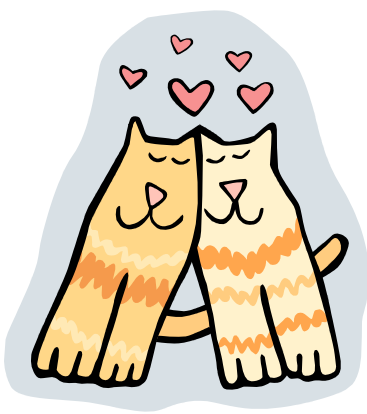
So, this year we will once again join this National effort by holding our fourth Adoptathon. The National Adoptathon dates are May 3rd – 4th. But, the summer months are our busiest time of the year, so we will be holding our Adoptathon June 28th - 29th. Our past efforts and support of the community has found homes for 15 - 20 animals each year as a result of this event. This year, our goal is to find loving, appropriate homes for 22 animals. Our normal adoption policies will remain in place.

However, the hours we will commit to this effort will change from previous years. As you may recall, during each Adoptathon, we have been open for 28 hours straight, opening at 1:00pm on Saturday and ending at 5:00pm on Sunday. We have found that the overnight hours are extremely slow, and for the sake of the animals, we want to be open when people are able to stop in and pursue the adoption process. With this in mind, we will begin the Adoptathon on Saturday, June 28th, at 10:00am and remain open until 10:00pm that day. We will then reopen at 10:00am and remain open until 8:00pm on Sunday, June 29th. Also, the Adoptathon committee is beginning to work out the details of a fun filled theme for this year's event. Watch our website, www.couleehumane.com for more details or call us in June to learn more. We hope that you also will hear or read details through our local media groups.

This will be a fun and rewarding weekend for all – our community, our animals, employees and volunteers alike!

I think dogs are the most amazing creatures; they give unconditional love. For me they are the role model for being alive.

~Gilda Radner



Cash for Critters Program Discontinued

We're sorry to announce that our fundraising program, Cash for Critters, has been discontinued by Cash for Critters. This program allowed us to collect used ink jet cartridges, laser printer cartridges, and cell phones, and recycle them for cash. Unfortunately, shipping

costs and other expenses have forced the company to end their program.

However, you can still donate your used ink cartridges to our organization. We can turn them in for credit to purchase ink cartridges to use at our organization through Cartridge World in Onalaska.

NEWS

To laugh often and much; to win the respect of intelligent people and the affection of children... to leave the world a better place...to know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived. This is to have succeeded.

- Ralph Waldo Emerson

Packer Raffle to Benefit CRHS

Beginning May 1, 2008 through Thursday, July 10, 2008, we are selling raffle tickets for a chance to win 4 indoor club tickets and a parking pass to the Bishop's Charities Game at Lambeau Field on Monday, August 11, 2008. The Green Bay Packers will host the Cincinnati Bengals. Raffle tickets are \$5.00 each or 5/\$20.00. Raffle tickets are available at the Coulee Region Humane Society now through July 10th, 2008, at 5:00pm at which the time the winner of the tickets will be announced.

We would like to thank Tom and Trudy Kennedy for donating the tickets and parking pass to raise dollars to support the many programs and services we offer to the community.

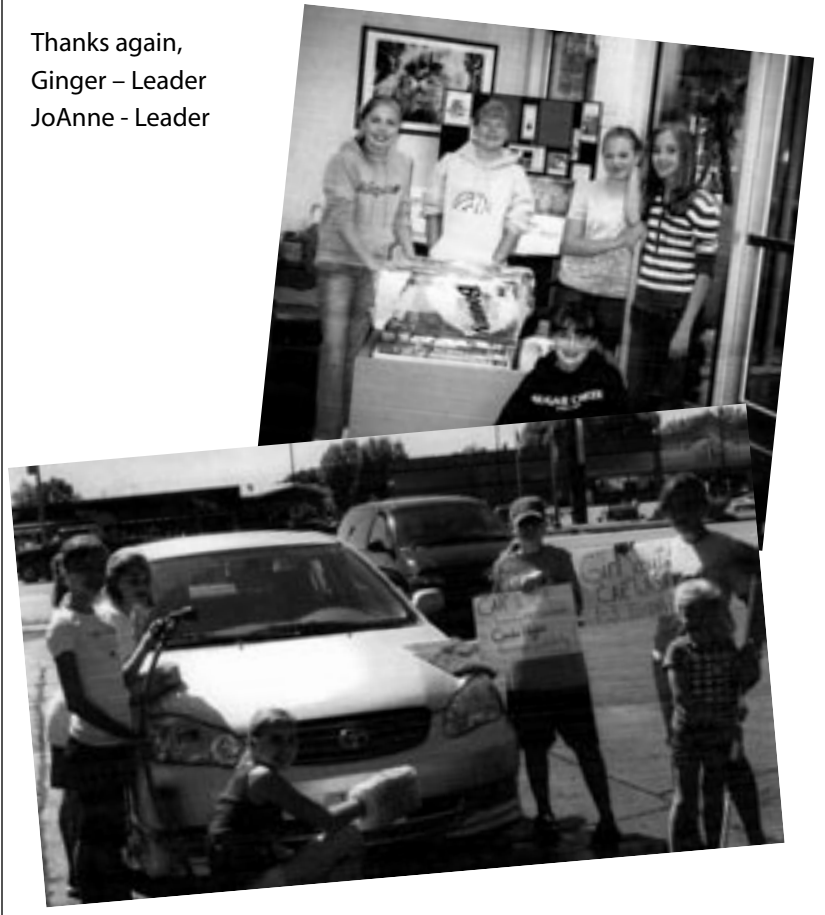
Yappy Hour at Stoney Creek Inn

Looking for something different to do with your dog? Maybe a way to meet other people and their dogs? If so, please join us at Stoney Creek Inn's Lumber-Jack Saloon and outdoor patio on Thursday, June 26th, 2008, from 5:00pm – 8:00pm. If you would like to attend, the following are guidelines/requirements for this canine cocktail hour:

To the Coulee Region Humane Society,

Just a note to tell you how much our Holmen Girl Scout Troop #26 enjoyed visiting your facility. In working on our Bronze award, we had a car wash last summer. With the proceeds of the car wash, we bought and donated over \$75 worth of product to the CRHS.

Thanks again,
Ginger – Leader
JoAnne - Leader



- Limited to the first 20 dogs who register
 - Minimum donation of \$10, to benefit our spay-neuter program
 - With your donation, you will receive one "buy one drink, receive one free drink" coupon
 - Discounts will be offered on pizza and breadsticks
 - All dogs attending will need to be spayed/neutered, licensed, and current on the following vaccinations – bordetella, distemper, and rabies (proof of all will be required prior to admission)
 - All dogs must be social in nature. No aggressive dogs will be allowed. Staff and volunteers will ask those whose behavior is not acceptable to leave.
- Pre-registration for this event is required as it is limited to 20 dogs. To register, visit the Coulee Region Humane Society during office hours (visit www.couleehumane.com/Hours.htm for hours). Remember to bring proof of your dog's spay/neuter, license, and current vaccination records. For more information, contact Heather Schmid at 781-4014.

Treasure from Trash

Trash is bad for the Earth. An empty juice can may be trash. Or it can become something useful. Try this gift idea. Start with a juice can and this paper. Color in the picture.

Cut out the rectangle on the dotted line. Tape the paper around the can to make a pencil holder. Give your pencil holder to a friend.

Kids' Corner



- Thank you to West Salem Elementary 2nd grade classes for donating shelter supplies, gift cards, and making a financial contribution!
- Thank you to the Mormon Coulee 4-H Club for donating animal and cleaning supplies as well as making a financial contribution!
- The Onalaska United Methodist Korean Youth Group recently held a drive to collect items and gift cards needed at CRHS. Thank you!
- The dogs would like to thank Northwoods International Elementary for making them homemade dog treats. They said they were really yummy!
- Thank you Mikayla F. for asking your family and friends to think of us on your birthday. The supplies that were received in your honor helped us care for the animals.
- Thank you to Onalaska Middle School for making tie/fringe blankets for the animals in our care.
- Thank you Hannah R., Brianna H., and Nora M. for going door to door to collect items and dollars for CRHS!
- And, finally thank you to everyone in the community that donated items from our wish list and supports us financially....it is because of you that we are able to be a resource for both animals and people in need!

March 20, 2008

If a man could
be crossed with
the cat it would
improve man,
but it would
deteriorate the cat.

– Mark Twain

Success Stories

Good Morning Cassandra,

I just want to again thank ALL of you for your help in us adopting Napoleon. I wasn't sure if I really was ready for another dog after having our previous Louise for 13 years, my heart still belonged to her and misses her terribly. By having the wait from March 1st until Napoleon got better I started getting excited and ready to have another loved one in the family. Tuesday night & Wednesday morning I did the reasons why I didn't want to have another dog but knew in my heart once Napoleon got home with us I would be fine. I've already fallen in love with him! He is a wonderful dog, learns really quickly and just seems so happy. I'm tired from playing with him last night. He doesn't act like the neutering bothered him at all. Steve loves him too and they were playing when I left for work this morning.

I have to say that at first we were a bit frustrated that we couldn't pick up Napoleon and have him neutered in Richland Center because we wanted him neutered anyway and used our local vet regularly. However, we do understand your policy and by the assistance that Sonia offered we were just fine with the situation. Then when we became aware of her generous offer, I still can't believe she went out of her way for us so far & for using her day off to bring Napoleon to the vet. Sonia is WONDERFUL! Actually, everyone we worked with was professional and seemed to have the animal's concerns as their first priority.

Thank you for taking such good care of Napoleon too! He has obviously received wonderful care from your staff.



Thank you as well for all your patience with me in my phone calls to see how he was doing. Once we get a little caught up from the extra dog expenses this month we will surely make contributions to your organization. We are very pleased!

Melinda J.

Hi Cassandra

I thought you might like an update on Danica. It's been 2 weeks, and we couldn't be happier. The kids have named her Summer, and she is very smart and eager to please. Summer and Blue have become great friends, and they love to play together. She really enjoys the snow, and has a favorite snow pile she likes to slide down on her belly. Summer has brought us all so much joy, and I think she enjoys being here as much as we enjoy having her. Thank you so much for helping us to adopt this wonderful family member.

I know how difficult your job can be, and I want you to know how much I appreciate all you've done. I understand how each animal can seem like a drop in a

bucket (or lake, or ocean), with the endless stream of animals who need loving homes. Each of those 'drops' are special and wonderful and deserve a wonderful home. Rest assured that this 'drop' will have a happy and loving home, with a family who will cherish her, always.

Thank you again, for believing in us, and working so hard to help us adopt Summer.

Sincerely,
Melissa



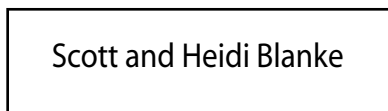
12th Annual Cause for Paws Banquet

On February 23rd, 2008, we held our annual Cause for Paws Banquet at the Stoney Creek Inn in Onalaska, WI. Over 250 people attended the event spending time with their family and friends bidding on silent auction items, enjoying dinner, and listening to testimonials shared by just a few of those who have been touched by our services and programs. Once again, the evening brought tears of joy and laughter to all.

Anne Paape and Cory Malles hosted the evening and sparked great interest in the silent auction throughout the evening. We enjoyed both record attendance at the event and dollars raised as a result of the generous support of guests, room and table sponsors, and businesses and individuals who donated items for the silent auction. We simply cannot say thank you enough to those who support this event as well as all of our efforts throughout the year.

We would like to acknowledge and thank the following businesses and individuals who helped make this event possible:

Event Sponsors



From the Desk of the Executive Director

At our Cause for Paws Banquet held in February, I shared some of our accomplishments in 2007 as well as some of our goals for 2008 with guests. However, many of you were not able to join us and I feel it is very important for you to know how your dollars not only impact our organization, but your family, your friends, your neighbors, your colleagues, and most importantly, animals, both domestic and wildlife.

In 2007, our programs and services reached a significant number of people and animals. The following are only highlights of each program/service, as it would take several pages to share all details:

Our education program reached 8,428 people, mainly school aged children, teaching them kindness, respect, and compassion for animals through 359 different programs. Without question, these programs touch the lives of many and help to change the way children and people care for and think of their animals.

Our training and behavior program aided 20 dogs and their owners through phone assistance, 41 dogs and their owners through individual training sessions, and enrolled 293 dogs in our training classes, offering tools to strengthen the human-animal bond. This ultimately reduced the number of dogs that were surrendered to our facility, keeping dogs in their homes with families who love and care for them.

Our animal control program served 1,972 domestic animals and 883 wild animals during 2007. They responded to 2,154 animal welfare concerns, inspected 26 facilities to ensure they are in compliance with local ordinances, and provided oversight to 284 rabies quarantines. This team of Humane Officers works around the clock, 7 days a week, 365 days a year to ensure public health and safety for both animals and people in La Crosse County.



Our volunteer program enjoyed an increase in the number of hours given to help our organization with its mission and goals with 9,227 hours volunteered at our facility caring for animals, planning special events, and representing us at community events. This is an increase of over 1,000 hours from 2006 and as a result, our animals have had more time spent with them, more time socializing them, and more time helping to calm them in what tends to be a stressful experience, that is living at a Humane Society.

Our pet therapy program has grown to almost 70 pet therapy teams. During 2007, this program touched 32,547 people through

1,245 visits at 47 different facilities like Gundersen Lutheran, Franciscan Skemp, Hillview Health Center, Meadow Wood, Onalaska Care Center, and Mulder Health Care; 30,779 people through community events such as the La Crosse Community Thanksgiving Day Dinner, Steppin' Out Walk (for Breast Cancer), Relay for Life, Salvation Army bell ringing, Special Day for Special People, and study breaks and fairs at local universities; and 3,715 people through 177 visits with children via our Reading program. Again, this outreach is accomplished by just under 70 pet therapy teams! These teams visited with over 60,000 people, literally bringing smiles, friendship, laughter, dog kisses, and companionship.

As for the animals who entered our facility during 2007, they were cared for by a compassionate, kind, dedicated group of individuals. The animal care staff tends to the animals daily providing them a clean living area, food and water, attention to any health concerns, friendship, and being their advocate to help ensure they find a home that will love and care for them. We saw the number of domestic animals entering our facility grow by almost 3%, with the number of animals surrendered increasing by 44%, and the number of stray animals entering our facility decreasing by 12%. I am extremely excited to share with you that over the past three years, our **adoption rates have increased by 54%**, with 884 animals being adopted in 2007! (continued on page 11)

This is the highest number of animals we have placed into new homes in a single year yet and I want to thank you for making this possible. However, there are still many animals that do not leave the shelter due to a lack of homes looking to adopt and pet overpopulation. We are hopeful that our adoption rates will continue to grow with greater awareness and promotions like Twice the Love, which began in January, encouraging cat adopters to consider bringing two felines into their lives rather than one.

Already in 2008, we have many goals we are working diligently to achieve. First, we are developing a disaster/emergency plan for our organization. After this is accomplished, we will begin to develop a community wide disaster/emergency plan for animals in the event this is needed. We hope to begin working on this in 2009.

Next, we are working to implement a plan to increase the number of animals licensed. In doing so, we will ensure greater public safety and health, because in order for an animal to be licensed it must first be vaccinated. For all dogs living in Wisconsin, this is the law, and for many municipalities it is the law for cats as well.

Finally, possibly the most important goal, we are planning a spay-neuter initiative. Everyday, 4 animals are euthanized right

here in our community due to a lack of homes. Granted, some of these animals are not suitable for adoption. But, for those who are adoptable, we want to do everything we possibly can. We want to assist all animals in need; however, a greater emphasis will be placed on altering cats. We need the help of everyone in our community to continue to make progress, to continue to make sure that each adoptable animal is able to find a suitable home. I know it is hard to think about the adoptable animals that are not able to leave through our front doors; I and the other staff members and volunteers witness this almost every day. We want to reach out to those in the community who may not be able to afford to alter their animals, who might be afraid to alter their animals, who simply choose not to alter their animals to curb overpopulation. Studies have shown that communities who offer a spay-neuter assistance program, known as SNAP, as well as education about the benefits of altering an animal, see a direct affect on the number of animals who enter the local Humane Society over time. Decreased shelter intake leads to decreased euthanasia. In the months to follow, we will once again need your help. I promise I will keep you informed as we pull this program together, both on the progress and how you can help, but it will be several months before this happens as we have a lot of work to accomplish before implementing a program.

I think it is easy to understand why I am honored to work alongside the staff and volunteers at the CRHS. I am humbled by the generosity this community bestows upon us. We continue to be the animal resource for the Coulee Region because of you, you being the community citizen, you being the business, you being the veterinarian, you being the staff member, you being the volunteer, you being you. Thank you for a great year and I assure you we are already in the midst of another!

Heather



Why Do We Work Here

Recently, the staff was asked to share why they work at the Coulee Region Humane Society (CRHS). Below is what our staff shared.....

I chose to make this my life's work because each day I find some small way to help improve life for people and animals. I do it because I genuinely like problem solving and knowing that my efforts make a difference in how we perceive and treat the world around us. **Amiie**

I do the dog training classes here at the shelter and this job is so very rewarding. The first night of class I tell people what their dog will be able to do at the end of the 7 week course and I hear a lot of "My dog will never be able to do that!" And guess what.....if you work with your dog every day and attend the classes....your dog WILL be able to do what you want them to do. That is the rewarding part, seeing how the owner and dog have started to build a working relationship.....and all through training! **Shirley, CPDT**

I choose to work at CRHS because it is my passion. I have worked with animals my whole life and have always chosen occupations with animals. I mainly work here for the satisfaction of helping animals in need and educating the public. **Janelle**

I volunteered at CRHS and enjoyed it so much I decided to apply for employment. It's

become my dream job – caring for the animals – and learning a lot in the process. **Rhonda**

I choose to work here because I believe every animal deserves the kind of love and compassion we give our own beloved pets. I also get a lot of fulfillment from educating the public and finding great homes for our animals. **Stephanie**

I want to be an advocate for those who are not able to speak for themselves. I want to work with people to provide them the information and knowledge needed to be the best companion they can be for their animals. To end each and every day knowing that something I did directly or indirectly affected the life of at least one animal...I cannot think of anything more fulfilling than this. **Heather S.**

What I enjoy most about my work at the CRHS is the great atmosphere. The staff here are very genuine caring people who are a true pleasure to be around. **Kyle**

Because no matter what kind of day it has been, we can always feel that we have made a difference to one living being. **Deb**

My father was a gentle, humble man with great compassion for all animals. He loved to hike in his local wetlands areas, and would carry turtles across the road to prevent them being run over by cars. My work at CRHS honors his memory. **Marcia**

I work at the shelter because I believe that all animals deserve a caring and loving home. I strive to make as much of a difference in their lives as they have made in mine. **Erin**

I work here because I want to make a difference in the community and know I can do that with this organization. **Heather H.**

Unconditional licks and purrs. Working at CRHS is a privilege... you learn so much from them while caring for them. **Sonia**

I work with animals because they need me and I need them. **Cassandra**

I work at CRHS for many reasons. I am committed to animals in need. I realize that not every animal will find a home, but while they are in our care, I can ensure they are treated with love and respect. **Molly**



Paw Away Hunger at Festival Foods – 1st Quarter 2008 Dollars Raised

During the first quarter of 2008, the Paw Away Hunger Program at our three local Festival Foods stores and you helped to raised \$1,425 for our organization! These dollars will be used to purchase supplies we use everyday like bleach, laundry detergent, cat litter, food, and toys from Festival Foods. Our thanks to Festival Foods and you for supporting CRHS through this program!



Receipt Reminder

Remember to save your receipts from Festival and Quillins! We earn 1% of all receipts that you give to us! You can either drop them off at the shelter or mail them directly to us.

Sleeps and Naps: Feline Style

Cats are the world's best sleepers. They slumber away about 60% of their lives--16 hours out of 24. At this rate a nine-year old cat has been awake for only about three years! Since cats are so efficient at obtaining their protein-rich food, they have plenty of time to rest up for the next hunting trip (or visit to the kitchen). A typical feline day includes over fifteen hours of sleeping and dozing, four to six hours of grooming and playing, with hunting, eating and exploring making up the rest of the day. There are three types of adult feline sleep: the brief nap, the longer light sleep, and the deep sleep. A napping cat is on "radar patrol", scanning the environment for any small sound. The periods of light sleep and deep sleep alternate. When Kitty settles down for more than a brief nap, the phase of light sleep lasts for about a half hour. Then, for six to seven minutes, he experiences deep sleep. At this point the cat's body relaxes and he appears to be dreaming (twitching and quivering). After the deep sleep, the adult cat then returns to another bout

of thirty minutes of light sleep until he eventually wakes up.

When choosing a site for your cat's bed, keep in mind the feline need for warmth and security (high and protected). It has been observed that the temperature of the room is a determining factor in the sleeping cat's body position. At less than 55 degrees F., the cat is curled up with his head tucked into his body. As the temperature increases, the cat's sleeping position opens up. At over 70 degrees F., the cat is uncurled with paws out in front. Upon waking, the supple cat usually takes a few minutes to stretch and restore his circulation. A yawn or two later, a quick face wash, and watch out!--he's ready for *action*.

Reproduced from Cats International, www.catsinternational.org



THE JOURNEY

By: *Dee Ganley,*
Author of
"Changing People,
Changing Dogs"

When you bring a dog into your life, you begin a wonderful journey—a journey that will bring you more love and devotion than you have ever known, yet will also test your strength and courage.

If you allow it, the journey will teach you many things about life, about yourself, and most of all, about relationships. You will come away changed forever, for one soul cannot touch another without leaving its mark.

Along the way, you will learn much about savoring life's simple pleasures - jumping in leaves, snoozing in the sun, the joys of puddles, drinking from a cool stream along the trail you are walking and even the satisfaction of a good scratch behind the ears. There will be ups and downs along the way.

If you spend much time outside, you will be taught how to truly experience every element, for no rock, leaf, or log or hole in the ground will go unexamined, no rustling bush or falling leaf will be overlooked, and even the very air will be inhaled, pondered, and noted as being full of valuable information. Your pace may be slower - except when heading back to go home - but you will become a better naturalist, having been taught by an expert in the field for the nose knows.

Too many times we hike on automatic pilot, our goal being to complete the trail rather than enjoy the journey. We miss the details - the colorful mushrooms on the rotting log,

the honeycomb in the old maple snag, the hawk feather caught on a twig, the chip in the stone wall. When we walk as a dog does, we discover a whole new world. We stop, browse the landscape, kick over leaves, peek in tree holes, look up, down, all around. And we learn what any dog knows: That nature has created a marvelously complex world, full of surprises, and each cycle of the seasons brings ever changing wonders, each day an essence all its own.

Even indoors you will find yourself more attuned to the world around you. You will watch summer insects collecting on a screen or landing on the ceiling. (How bizarre they are! How many kinds there are!). Or note the flick and flash of fireflies through the dark. You will stop to observe the swirling dance of windblown leaves, or sniff the air after rain. It does not matter that there is no objective in this; the point is in the doing, in not letting life's most important details slip by.

You will find yourself doing silly things that your petless friends might not understand. Like spending thirty minutes in the grocery aisle looking for the right dog food brand with the correct ingredients you must have, buying dog birthday treats or driving around the block an extra time because your pet is enjoying the ride. You will roll in the snow, wrestle with chewy toys, bounce little rubber balls until your eyes are crossed, point the laser along the floors and walls for a good game of chase. You'll even run around the house trailing your

bathrobe tie, with a puppy in hot pursuit.

Your house will become muddier and hairier. You will wear less dark clothing and buy more lint rollers. You will find dog biscuits and kibble in your pocket after you have washed and dried your clothes. You'll feel the need to explain that the old plastic milk jug or cardboard box adorns your living room rug because your dog loves to play with it.

You will learn the true measure of love; the steadfast, undying kind that says "It doesn't matter where we are or what we do, or how life treats us, as long as we are together." Respect this always. It is the most precious gift any living soul can give another. You will not find it often among the human race.

And you will learn humility. The look in my dog's eyes often makes me feel ashamed. Such joy and love at my presence. Those eyes see not some flawed human who could be cross and stubborn, moody or rude, but only a wonderful companion. Or maybe they see those things, but dismiss them as mere human foibles, not worth considering, and so choose to love me anyway.

If you pay attention and learn well, when the journey is done you will be not just a better person, but the person your pet always knew you to be: The one they were proud to call beloved friend.

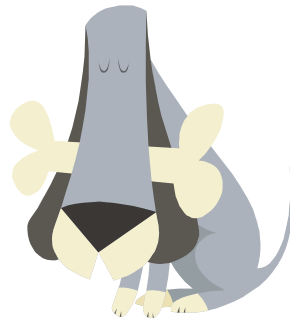
Philanthropic Educational Organization Grant Award

Recently, the Coulee Region Humane Society was the recipient of a \$1,000 grant from the Wisconsin Philanthropic Educational Organization's Sisterhood H.E.L.P. Fund. The grant will provide partial funding for our pet therapy director to attend a national conference for our Reading program and partial funding for our training program. We cannot thank this organization enough for their generosity and support of these two very important programs that assist so many in our community.

U-Bake Supplies Meaty Bones to Dogs

You may have noticed that we are no longer asking for meaty bones on our wish list. This is because U-Bake has agreed to donate bones anytime we need them for dogs in our care.

We cannot thank Kris at U-Bake enough for ensuring that these are available for dogs that are in isolation due to sickness and dogs that need additional activities to keep their minds stimulated while with us. U-Bake is located at 4308 Mormon Coulee Road in La Crosse.



Wesley United Methodist Church, Thank You!

On behalf of the staff, volunteers, and especially the animals, we would like to thank Wesley United Methodist Church for choosing our organization as their 2008 Lenten Mission Project. Each week during Lent, items were collected from our wish list which directly helps us care for the thousands of domestic and wild animals we will care for during 2008. Thank you so much for helping animals in need and ultimately allowing us to be a resource for those who need us most in our community.



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Heidi Blanke, Secretary
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Ann Abraham
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Jessica Janke
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Peg Zappen

Contact Information

911 Critter Court
Onalaska, WI 54650
608-781-4014
Fax 608-781-1646
www.couleehumane.com



911 Critter Court
Onalaska, WI 54650

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Hours

Viewing

Monday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday 1pm - 5pm
Tuesday and Thursday 1pm - 7pm
Wednesday - Closed

Office

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9am - 5pm
Tuesday and Thursday 9am - 7pm
Saturday and Sunday 1pm - 5pm

Wish List

Animal and Kennel Care:

Cat scratching post
Kong stuffers:
Small treats, peanut butter, spray cheese
Toys for cats:
Little mice with a tail and bell on end, etc.
Toys for dogs:
Sturdy squeaky toys, Kongs
Rawhide bones or chips - things to keep our dogs busy
Pig Ears
Dry Cat Food (Science Diet, Eukanuba, PetSmart Authority, Purina)
Dry Kitten Food (Science Diet, Eukanuba, PetSmart Authority, Purina)
Canned Cat Food (loaf please, no meats in gravy/sauce)
Dry Dog Food (Science Diet, Eukanuba, Purina)
Dry Puppy Food (same brands listed for Dog Food)
British Style Slip Leads for dogs - 1/2 inch and 3/8 inch - can be found at www.cleanrun.com, click on collars and leashes then click on slip leads, then click on british style
Dog Collars
Martingale Collars for dogs
Feliway spray (see www.petedge.com)
Feliway plug-ins - Qty of 4 - 1 for each cat room

Carefresh Bedding
Yesterday's News - Litter
Timothy Hay
Guinea Pig Food
Aspen shavings or chips (no pine or cedar)
Small animal food (Birds, Hamsters, Rabbits, Ferrets)
Small animal litter
Rabbit pellets
Fresh carrots and romaine lettuce for rabbits
Pooper Scoopers - Heavy Duty
Dish rags/washcloths
Gas Gift Cards (transportation of animals)
Gift Cards (to buy food and supplies):
Target
Wal-mart
Sam's Club
PETCO
PetSmart

Office Supplies:

Blank Name Tags
Small gift bags (to send info. home with adopters)
Stamps
Pocket Folders

Cleaning Supplies:

Garbage Bags - 33 gallon size
All purpose cleaner (Lysol, Mr. Clean, etc.)
Windex
Paper toweling
Laundry detergent
Kleenex

Special Needs:

Buster Cubes (for dogs) - Qty 4
Chomping toys (no stuffed toys) from planetdog.com
Heavy Duty 3 Hole Paper Punch

URGENT

Clay cat litter (non-clumping)
Canned Dog Food (Pedigree, Iams, Nutro, Alpo)
Chicken flavored baby food for stressed cats to encourage eating
Bleach
Copy Paper - 8.5X11 (plain white)