



Iowa County Humane Society (ICHS) Newsletter *PawPrints July 2017*

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A Letter From The Editor... and which is more concerning – a drought or a deluge? I don't remember when July has been so wet. TV coverage showing cows standing belly deep in water and entire corn and alfalfa fields under water – it is so disheartening. The farmers have really had a rough time with the weather this spring and early summer. For me, it's not the rain – it's the mud. I don't like mud! I used to like mud. As kids we used to make mud pies – that was fun! I wonder if kids still make mud pies! I have a feeling that if I asked young people about making mud pies, they would just look at me strangely. My, how times have changed! ...**As you read this letter it is important to remember that I am a volunteer and these are MY thoughts.**



There is a change as you pull into the parking lot at ICHS. For the past couple of years the idea of having a nice, permanent ICHS sign had been talked about but a sign never made it to the top of the shelter's 'to do' list. So I am happy to report that an anonymous donor recently made the ICHS sign a reality! The sign was installed a couple of weeks ago at the entrance to ICHS. The sign looks GREAT (although you may not be able to tell from my photo)! I took several photos – some even included a picture of the entire sign!☺ I am not claiming to be the world's best with a camera but there were several elements NOT working in my favor – yes, I am making excuses which are as follows: (1) it was the day that it reached 90 degrees along

with high humidity, (2) it was late afternoon and there was terrific glare from the sun, (3) Nina was not cooperating. She was camera-shy and also wanted to get back to her air-conditioned kennel, and (4) I have never figured out how to work my camera. When I previewed the pictures there was too much "clutter" on the viewfinder (don't know how to get rid of the clutter) so I was not aware that I had cut off the top of this (otherwise) very nice picture. So to see the sign in its entirety, why not make the drive to Dodgeville, stop by for a visit and perhaps fall in love with an animal while you are here! At any rate, thank you so much to the anonymous donor. A thank you is also in order to Arnette S. for doing the "behind the scenes" work with the sign company and whoever else may have been involved. Thank you, Alyssa S, for your patience in settling Nina down and putting up with this photographer. By the way, Alyssa recently graduated from Dodgeville HS and will be heading off to college in a few weeks and Nina, our very exuberant Pit Bull mix, needs a home!

Per this time of year kittens are coming through the door non-stop. If you go online and wonder where all of these kittens are – believe me, we have kittens! It is just that they can't be on the floor (nor on the website) until they have been spayed and neutered. Some litters are in foster care and **Angel's Wish** took several kittens a few weeks ago (we just don't have the room for so many of them). And a few reminders: (1) ICHS is always in need of families to foster kittens. (2) We do have a **Low Cost Spay and Neuter Program** for dogs as well as cats. The spay and neuter program is income-based but if you need assistance with altering your pet(s), at least inquire – just call and talk to Jen. Perhaps arrangements can be made to find a way to assist you in your situation –it doesn't hurt to ask. (3) If you are planning to adopt a cat, remember it's not just the cute kittens that are in need of homes – there are also many nice adult cats waiting here for YOU. (4) Our special needs kitties also need homes (see '*Special Pets*'). I looked back at last year's July **PawPrints** and was reminded that we had five special needs' kitties

adopted in a month's time. If we could have a repeat of that, ICHS's entire special needs population would find their forever homes before I get around to writing the next newsletter – what a wonderful thought!!!☺ If you have any suggestions or ideas about the content of ICHS PAWPRINTS, please contact me, Terri Davis at roadhogbiker@gmail.com

Upcoming Fundraising Events and Volunteer Needs

Just a reminder that ICHS is always looking for volunteers to help with the planning and implementation of our fundraisers. Our goal is to have enough volunteers so that each individual would only have to help plan and/or work at one event per year. So, if you would like to get involved with the planning and organizing of 2017's fundraisers, please contact the shelter for more details. We hope to hear from you!!!

VOLUNTEER NEEDED!! ICHS is in need of a dedicated volunteer that is willing to mow our lawn on a weekly basis. Must be comfortable operating a Zero-Turn lawn mower. For more information, give us a call at 608-935-1381 ext 3, or email kennelmanager@ichs.net



Wed., August 2nd is the Lands' End Food Sale fundraiser. Volunteers needed to bake for the bake sale, as well as staffing the food booth for the day. Please contact Jen at outreach@ichs.net or 608-935-1381 if you'd like to help!

May and June Adoptions

May				June			
Cats		Dogs		Cats		Dogs	
Bear	Katya	Kenny	Kenzlie	Rover	Squeaks+	Ravi	William
Ezra	Umbra*		Gretchen	Gizmo	Sheena	Wilfred*	Arlo
Thalia	Carina*			Wabbit+	Sarafina*		Floyd
Trixie	Alula*			Fiona+	Peep		Suzy

* - kitten
 ☺ - denotes animal has been at ICHS for over a year/has special needs/or is elderly
 + - Transferred to Angel's Wish

Special Pets

We all know that all animals are 'special' but the animals featured in this section are indeed special. These are 'special needs' animals. The special person/family who adopts one of these animals knows that this may/may not be the long-term relationship which we hope for when we open our hearts and homes to a new family member. These animals 'forever homes' with us may be just for a short time before they move on...But, nevertheless, these animals need a home and a loving family just as we all do. Are you possibly the family that could provide a home for one of these animals? If not, do you know of a family who could provide a loving home for these animals? If so, please come out to ICHS and find out more about these animals from the ICHS staff.

Bandit, Piper – FIV Kitties



Bandit and Piper are "normal" cats – it's just that they have the FIV virus which affects their immune systems – but slowly – over a period of years! They should live long and normal lives! **Bandit** is a young, handsome guy. He came in with an apparent reaction to fleas and had significant hair loss but the hair has grown back and he looks amazing! He is a sweet cat and loves attention. **Piper** is also a young kitty who came to the shelter with her four kittens. Initially she had been very energetic and

playful but now is a bit more sedate but what hasn't changed is that she still loves attention. Bandit and Piper used to be housed together in *Chuck's Tree House*. They are currently residing in cages as the room is needed for our huge kitten population. They are not actually "best buds" but get along with each other. They do not need to be adopted together but certainly could be! 😊

Although we call FIV cats "special", there really are no special considerations when adopting any of these three kitties. If it wasn't for the FIV+ sign on their cages, you wouldn't have a clue that they have FIV! They must be kept indoors. They may live with other indoor cats since FIV is not easily passed between cats (it would be best if your other cat(s) are good-natured and amicable to a new pal). FIV is primarily spread by serious bite wounds so if you have other cats, it is important to properly introduce FIV cats to the others (but you would do that with any cat that you bring home). It is also important to keep them free from stress so a quiet home would be best. So...Bandit and Piper need a home.

Cleo, Cheerio and Gallagher - FeLV Kitty



Cleo and **Cheerio** are both about a year old and have been at ICHS since last fall. Cheerio and Cleo are 'roommates' so if YOU are looking for a pair of young kitties that will entertain YOU as well as each other, come and get to know these two youngsters. Both of these 'best friends' are extremely playful. Cleo is the "cuddler" of the two. She is a very petite kitty so she may have some more growing to do or perhaps she will always be petite – either way she is a little bundle of joy! Cheerio is growing into a very handsome young

gentleman – well maybe not a 'gentle' man as he is still a bit squirmy when he is picked up. Although he is getting better about being held, he needs more "hands on" – that would be where YOU become involved. It would be wonderful if these two could go to the same home.



Gallagher has been at ICHS for a couple of months. He is a young Maine Coon mix. He had to be shaved as he was so matted and his hair has not grown in yet. He is a bit unique because he is polydactyl (the extra set of toes) but what YOU will notice first about him is how loving and sweet he is. He lives with Cleo and Cheerio and gets along well with them. Gallagher has so many "positives" going for him – being of the popular Maine Coon breed, an extra set of toes and a HUGE loving disposition – so don't ignore him just because of his FeLV status!

Similar to FIV cats, FeLV cats also must be kept indoors and a quiet home is best. FeLV cats do need to be only cats (may live with other FeLV cats). FeLV kitties may live for years having a "normal" life span, but once/if the later stage of the infection occurs, the cat's health may deteriorate rapidly. That, of course, is one reason FeLV cats are not readily adopted – no one wants to lose their pet to illness. So...Gallagher, Cleo and Cheerio need a home.

Success Stories

I need your help if I am to continue to feature the success stories which begin the moment your adopted companion chooses you. It is not difficult for me to write a paragraph that showcases your pet. The problem that I have is finding YOU and your pet. I don't know who you are or how to contact you. If you would be interested in sharing your pet's story in the newsletter, please e-mail me at roadhoggbiker@gmail.com. A picture and a brief write-up about your pet(s) is all that I need. If I don't have enough info, I will get back to you. It would be helpful to know your pet's shelter name (if you renamed your pet), when you adopted, pet's favorite activities, other pets that you may have and whatever else you

would like to include. If you are not able to send a picture, that's OK. Many of you send periodic updates regarding your adopted pet to the shelter. I can use those write-ups if you would please indicate (in your letter/e-mail to ICHS) that you are giving me permission to include your pet's story in the newsletter. I hope to hear from you!



This is a picture of my daughter Shaleigh and our new family member. We have named her **Piper Lee (Kenzlie)** and she's a wonderful little lady. Loves to play and loves to snuggle when tired of playing. She's bringing so much joy to our family! Thank you for the privilege of adopting her.



As predicted, **Ravi** needed a few days to feel comfortable in his new home - now he's sacked out like he's lived here his entire life!



Hi it's me **Max (Kylín)** again, it's been awhile since that last photo was taken, both Terra and Felix passed away a few months after I came. My people went back to you folks and brought to their forever homes my new little sister **Dora (aka-Cupcake-6w)** and my new big brother **Zeus (aka Cosmos(15y))** now the 4 of us are fast friends. We also have 2 dogs for kinda friend.



Thank you to everyone who took such good of **Willa** during her stay with you. I wanted to write to give you an update on how she is doing in her new home. She is such a sweetheart! She is by far one of the silliest itty-bitty kitties with the loudest purr that I've ever had. She's adopted a fishing pole with a furry thing at the end as her favorite toy. She drives us crazy dragging it up and down the hall at night and brings it to bed so I put it in a closet. First thing in the morning, she stands in front of the closet and mews for it. She's a pretty smart cookie. She definitely has my husband wrapped around her furry little paw. He gives in and takes it out to play with her every time she stares at him with her big golden eyes. (It helps that she is already a Packer fan.)



Darth Vader (Arlo) with his best friend.



Gidget (Thalia) loves her new home, thank you!