



Iowa County Humane Society (ICHS) Newsletter *PawPrints July 2016*

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A Letter From The Editor... Summer is going

along well albeit too fast! Crops and flower beds look fantastic! Rains have been frequent enough to compromise the farmers' downed hay and keeping the lawn mowers busy. Temperatures have been a little bit higher but since the higher temps seem to only last a couple of days at a time, I'm not complaining. I hear people talking about the seemingly endless green bean crop and the soon-to-be bumper harvest of tomatoes. I am so glad that I don't "do vegetables" (meaning having a garden – I do eat most vegies). It is so much easier to stop at the farm market and put what I need in a bag rather than have to tend the garden and then freeze or can the produce. I can blame my negative attitude (towards canning) on my dear grandmother as I always had to wash the jars prior to canning. Of course I did what I was asked/told to do but it sure didn't seem fair when my brothers were outside playing... **And as you read this letter, it is important to remember that I am a volunteer and these are MY thoughts.**

The **Green Bay Packers Tailgate Tour** spent the better part of Sunday, June 19, in Dodgeville. This was the 11th year that some of the team takes to the road to help raise funds for selected nonprofit organizations. Mark Murphy, President and CEO of the GB Packer organization, made the trip along with three Packer alumni and three current players. There was also other staff from the organization making the trip. The tour began at the Don Q Inn and then proceeded to the Harris Park pavilion where "green and gold" fans awaited their heroes!



I helped out at the event and I must admit that I did get misty-eyed and a bit choked up when that BIG green and gold bus pulled into the parking lot at the Don Q Inn – it was kind of exciting even for me (not being a sports fan) to see such an iconic part of Wisconsin culture up close. Perhaps my emotions were heightened simply knowing that this event would provide much needed funds for ICHS. Thank you to the Green Bay Packer organization, Jen S for all of her efforts in working with the GB office to make this event possible, ICHS sponsors and all of the Packer fans. **Go Pack Go!**

I am so excited that four of our special needs cats were adopted since I wrote last –WONDERFUL news to pass on. These special kitties are so sweet but are



passed up time and time again – it gets so discouraging. Our FIV/FelV population is now half of what it has been for ages.



Sweet **Laurel** was adopted in April, but these other four sweeties were out the door one after the other. **Juniper**, a young, affectionate cat had been at ICHS for quite a while. I don't recall anyone ever showing any interest in her and then it happened – a special person walks

through the door and Juniper has her forever home!



Although there was some sporadic interest in big, loveable **Garfield**, it took a special family to realize that his FIV label wasn't an issue and he was theirs! Those of us who



were at the shelter the afternoon that little **Woody** (such a neat little guy) left with his family – well, let’s just say there wasn’t a dry eye in the room. Woody had so many issues that he couldn’t go to just any family, but sure enough that special family was found! And then, there was Julie! **Julie** had only been here a couple of weeks – not even enough time to settle in! This little lady loved all the human attention she received but in line with her “tortiness”, she was not overjoyed to be in the same room as Buzz and Petey. As wonderful as it is that these cats have found their families, there are five more loving special needs



cats still waiting for YOU (please see “Special Pets” in this issue)! There are also some elderly kitties that need homes, and this is kitten season – need I

say more?☺ **If you have any suggestions or ideas about the content of ICHS PAWPRINTS, please contact me, Terri Davis, at roadhogbiker@gmail.com**

Volunteer Update

As a reminder, ICHS is a volunteer-based organization and our volunteers are priceless when it comes to our mission and success. As important as our volunteers are, perhaps we don’t have an adequate way to express our thanks other than to say “thank you” and there may be a time when even that doesn’t occur. Most of us volunteer because we want to, and we don’t expect thanks – a wagging tail or a purring cat is our thanks! ICHS has a “Lucky Volunteer of the Month” drawing – just for fun. One volunteer’s name is drawn each month and receives a little something – no, not a kitten☺ – as a token of ICHS’s appreciation. The volunteer is “lucky” because it has nothing to do with how often you volunteer (there is only one name/per person/ per month no matter how much time you spend volunteering) and so “lucky” is simply being the one whose name is drawn from the container – that’s the “luck of the draw”!

Our most recent “lucky volunteers” are: **May** – Augie H. Augie is a young lady from Dodgeville. She and her dad, Brian, have only been volunteering since February 2016, but they can be found cuddling the cats on a regular basis. **June** – Laurie M. I try not to label people but Laurie has to be one of our two most “dedicated” volunteers when it comes to spending time with the cats. Laurie hails from the Cobb/Montfort area and started volunteering in November 2015. Laurie can be found 4-5 afternoons a week at the shelter and her mission is to get every cat out of their cage each day and if time permits, she also spends time in the community rooms. Laurie has a busy life on her family’s large farm so you can understand just how devoted she is to our cats! Thank you to Augie (and Brian) and Laurie – and all the rest of you for everything that you do for ICHS! If you are interested in volunteering, ICHS would love to have you join us. It is just a matter of filling out an application and attending an orientation meeting. Please call the office for the next monthly orientation meeting.

Upcoming Fundraising Events

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 2016’s fundraisers, please contact the shelter for more details. We hope to hear from you!!!

We have a few upcoming events and desperately need volunteers for each one!

- **Wed., August 3rd and Mon., August 8th:** Lands’ End Food Sale fundraisers. Volunteers needed to bake for the bake sale, as well as staffing the food booth both days.
- **Fri., August 12th and Sat. August 13th:** Dairyland Dare fundraiser. Volunteers needed for various positions both days.

Please contact Jen at outreach@ichs.net or 608-935-1381 if you’d like to help!



May & June Adoptions

May					June		
Cats			Dogs		Cats		Dogs
Blair	Lauren	Lizzy	Pandora	Mariah	Isabel	Tilly*	Yogi
Martha*	Missy	Shrike☺	Murphy	Marnie	Dove	Bobby*	Mya
Alfred*	Clark*	Damara☺	Miley	Poppy	Garfield☺	Greg*	Beau
Andy*	Mallard*	Lois*	Mariele	Marcus	Strife*	Snickers☺	Jayci
O'Brien	Screetch*				Peter*	Ash	Louie
Juniper☺☺	Diana*						Rosie
							Annie

* - kitten
 ☺ - denotes animal has been at ICHS for over a year/has special needs/or is elderly

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.

Buzz, Mustard & Petey – FIV Kitties



As touted in the editorial, half of our FIV kitties have went home in the past couple of months! FIV kitties are "normal" cats – it's just that they have a virus (FIV) which affects their immune systems – but slowly – over a period of years! They should live long and normal lives!

Buzz was thought to be 'feral' when he first arrived at ICHS; hiding in his cubby 24/7 for weeks – but he was simply frightened – and he still frightens easily when unexpected noises or movement occurs. He does need to get to know YOU before his sweet personality will become apparent. Buzz is one of the sweetest and most loving cats in the building. Buzz has been with us going on three years – he really needs a home! Is it possible that YOU just might be the special family that Buzz is looking for?

Mustard was extremely vocal when he first came to ICHS but has quieted down. He is also a popular kitty with the volunteers. Because he had appeared to be so "needy" (meowing) when in his cage, I wasn't sure what to expect from him when I took him to a M&G room for the first time, but he was very well-behaved. Although he played a bit, he seemed to be content just having my attention (and a few treats). He'll be a wonderful addition to YOUR family.



Petey is one of those kitties that if he was not FIV+, he would have been adopted before now. Petey hasn't been with us long – he came in March but as sweet and handsome as he is, he would have been adopted before now if it wasn't for his FIV label! Petey is only about two years old, playful, loves attention and gets along with other cats. Actually Petey and Buzz are roommates (they are such a handsome pair) and they get along well. If YOU are looking for a pair of kitties (or only one), look no further, YOU have just been found!

Although we call FIV cats “special”, there really are no special considerations when adopting Buzz, Mustard, or Petey. 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 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...Buzz, Mustard and Petey need homes.



Slade – FeLV Kitty

Slade is a young, gray guy who has one thing on his mind when I take him out of his cage – FOOD! And he could probably benefit from having some extra treats – being the young cat that he is, he is a bit gangly. He is so happy to be out of his cage that it is difficult to get him to focus. When I have him out, he isn’t interested in me or playing – just food – but once he adjusts to YOUR home – his real personality will come shining through. Since I don’t know Slade very well, I leave it up to YOU to get to know him – whether as a volunteer here at ICHS or by making him YOURS. It is a certainty that Slade would love to get to know YOU.

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. But these kitties need homes.

Gregory – FIV & FeLV Kitty



Gregory is indeed a special kitty! He tested positive for both FeLV and FIV, but don’t let that deter you from making this guy a part of your family! As mentioned earlier, as long as FeLV cats are kept indoors, are only cats and live in a stress-free environment (as much as possible), they should be a part of your family for many years to come. Gregory is friendly and affectionate, but he hasn’t had a lot of opportunities to interact with people (he was a barn cat). However now

that Woody has been adopted, Gregory has been promoted to be an “office cat”. He enjoys the opportunity to be out and about (three years in a cage does get old). I am not sure if his office skills are up to par so let’s find a retirement home for Gregory – how about YOURS!

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 roadhobgiker@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!