

Spring 2012

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SAVE THE DATE

HOWL & MEOW AT THE MOON – SEPTEMBER 28

FALL FUNDRAISING EVENT AT THE ELLA SHARP MUSEUM

HOWL & PROWL – OCTOBER 27

ANNUAL HALLOWEEN COSTUME CONTEST AND TRICK OR TREAT EVENT FOR KIDS AND DOGS

JOIN US ON



ANIMAL TALES

PAWS IN THE PARK

Saving lives truly can be a walk in the park!

Cascades Falls Park is going to the dogs on Saturday May 12th, 2012, from 10am to 1pm and we want you to join them!

Paws in the Park is for everyone – young and old, two and four legged. You'll be joined by hundreds of area pet lovers on a journey to save lives. Every donation, large or small, will help an animal in need at Cascades Humane Society.

The walk starts at 11am and will be a leisurely 1.3 mile walk around the beautiful Cascades Falls Park. Activities for the day will include a dog jumping competition with Classic K-9s, presentations by police officers and their canine companions, an agility course for dogs to go through, and many more fun dog themed events!

Start your journey to save lives today by going to stayclassy.org and typing 'Paws in the Park' in the search line. Create your personalized fundraising web page to tell your story, upload photos, invite friends to participate and ask for donations. Everyone who registers and raises \$50 will receive an event t-shirt, doggie bandana and goodie bag. There will also be prizes and awards for the top individual fundraisers and teams.

Paws in the Park major sponsors include Allegiance Health, Omni Source, Full Spectrum Solutions, Haul's Mow & Snow, Sandhill Crane Vineyards, American 1 Federal Credit Union, Brandt & Dehncke, Mat's Café, Scott Machine and Taco Bell.

Cascades Humane Society's



presented by OmniSource & Allegiance Health





CASCADES HUMANE SOCIETY
1515 Carmen Drive

P: (517) 787-7387
www.chspets.org

SHELTER HOURS

Tuesday-Saturday: Noon- 6:00pm
Sunday-Monday: Closed

OUR MISSION

Connecting animals in need with people who care.

OUR VISION

A community in which all pets have loving homes and are treated with compassion and respect.

Cascades Humane Society is an independent 501(c)3 organization. CHS relies primarily on the generosity of individuals, foundations, corporations and special events to support our services and programs. CHS receives no funding from federal, state or county government, United Way or other national or state humane organizations.

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FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESK

As you are reading this, we are in the midst of "kitten season".

This time of year, thousands of cats give birth to thousands more kittens. This cycle repeats every year when spring arrives – animals shelters everywhere begin bursting at the seams with unwanted cats and kittens.

As important as finding homes for these cats and kittens, preventing unwanted litters in the first place is even better. Last year your support helped CHS spay and neuter 422 cats for the public and 211 feral cats through our SNAP program along with 378 adopted cats and kittens. **In 2012, we want to double those numbers!**

Cascades Humane Society's SNAP program offers discounted spays and neuters for residents of Jackson County who might otherwise not be able to afford these services. We do this in partnership with Blackman Animal Hospital, Columbia Animal Clinic, Gaide Veterinary Clinic, Grass Lake Animal Hospital and Kibby Park Animal Hospital.

Our Forgotten Feline spay and neuter program is paid for with the sale of catnip pillows. Every year, many committed volunteers stuff and sew thousands of catnip pillows that we sell for \$10 a piece at area pet supply stores.

Appointments for SNAP and Forgotten Felines are required and can be made by calling Cascades Humane Society at (517) 787-7387.

We may be experiencing the same cycle of "kitten season" this year and for many years to come but with your continued support we will continue to rescue, prevent and educate until this tragic cycle is broken.

Thank you for your support!

MEET MELISSA



Melissa Woodhurst has recently joined the Cascades Humane Society as our Director of Development. She was previously with the Downtown Development Authority, has a Bachelor in Business Administration from Baker College and will be completing her Master's in Business Administration this spring from Spring Arbor University.

In 2011, she was named BPW Person of Achievement and in 2010 was recognized as a "30 Under 30" by Jackson Magazine.

She currently serves a Vice-President for the Harriet A. Myer BPW and has served on the boards of Partnership Park and Big Brothers Big Sisters.

"As a longtime dog lover and previous dog adopter, this position holds a special place in my heart. I'm looking forward to this new role as an opportunity to give back!"





CHARLOTTE THE CROSSED-EYED DOGGIE

Found as a stray and brought to us in April, Charlotte had a laid back attitude and a most unusual face with her crossed eyes.

Charlotte was a shelter favorite and spent many of her afternoons with volunteer dog walkers out in the Paw Playground or with staff at the adoption desk. Sometimes, she even spent a weekend at the lake with a volunteer, where we learned she loved to swim!

Charlotte stayed with us until that magical day in August when her forever family finally found the perfect dog. The Ali's love to play with Charlotte, take her for walks and give her lots of belly rubs – her favorite activity.

The CHS staff is treated to frequent visits from Charlotte. Recently, she pulled her 'dad' all the way around the adoption desk and back with the staff so she could say hello to everyone.

FEATHER

Recently our Admissions Desk received a call from the Jackson County Animal Shelter about a special needs cat their staff had fallen in love with. Knowing the animal's chances for finding the perfect home were better with CHS, they asked us to help. All it took was one look and we fell in love with her too!

Feather was our first paraplegic animal. At about 7 months old, she was the most outgoing and social cat to come to CHS in a very long time. Her comical antics endeared her to everyone she met...including Trent and Jenn.

Because of Jenn's experience as a veterinary technician, we knew Feather's special needs would be met. Jenn and Trent knew Feather was the perfect fit for their family.

To see this extraordinary feline in action, please visit the Cascades Humane Society's YouTube channel and view "A Special Little Cat Named Feather."



WINDSOR'S STORY *as told by his humans Kristin & Paul Spencer*

"My husband and I had not planned on getting another pet, especially since our Border Collie was just barely a year old and definitely enough work for us to handle. One day while looking online at the available pets at Cascades Humane Society, we fell in love with Windsor.

His description stated Windsor was special needs. Windsor certainly did not appear to be special needs, so we thought maybe it was his cute, crooked little smile that was his problem. Once we arrived at CHS to see him, we found out that he was heartworm positive. There were many things to consider if we were going to adopt him; how much was it going to cost, how would he get along with the Border Collie at home, and what if the treatment didn't work?

We spent some time with him in the visiting room and found out that in the two months he was there, he had been visited by others but still wasn't adopted. We knew then, that all those questions didn't matter. We needed to provide him with a forever home, no matter what the cost. So we brought Eva, our Border Collie, for a meet and greet. The introduction went well, but not as great as we had hoped.

Somehow, we had faith that they would be fine. It has now been two months and we are happy to report Windsor has recovered from the heartworm treatment quite nicely and is the most loving little guy any "mom" could hope for. And best of all, Widget (aka Windsor) and Eva are the best of friends! He was definitely worth the risk and we are so glad that he found his forever home with us!"



One sweet ride.

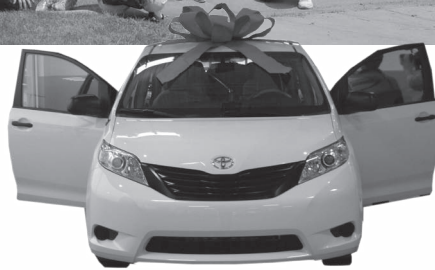
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YOU WON A TOYOTA SIENNA VAN FOR THE ANIMALS!

Cascades Humane Society is a winner in Toyota's 100 Cars for Good program which awarded vehicles to 100 nonprofit organizations based on votes from the public. Five nonprofit organizations were showcased each day for 100 days on Toyota's Facebook page. Visitors to the page voted for the organization they felt was the most deserving of a new Toyota vehicle. CHS received the most votes on our voting day.

The new Sienna van was presented to CHS on September 30 at Spartan Toyota in Lansing. While the staff members are enjoying having a reliable vehicle to help with their jobs, it may be the animals who get weekly rides to the newspaper and JTV who are enjoying it the most.

ASK THE EXPERTS – CHS STAFF ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS

Q: When I try to take my dog for a walk, she pulls so hard my arms hurt and it sounds like she's choking. What can I do?

A: Loose leash walking is a challenging concept for any dog owner. Dogs are excitable, high-energy animals that love to explore the world around them. In a dog's eyes, our walks make no sense – we walk too slowly; we go in a straight, boring line' and we don't stop to sniff nearly enough fire hydrants!

To teach your dog to walk nicely, you first need to remember that walking is a reward in and of itself. If an action allows your dog to continue walking, she is going to continue to perform that action. If she pulls and you keep walking along, she begins to think that pulling gets her the chance to see more interesting things. To change this behavior, you'll need to first take away the rewards for pulling and add in rewards for walking on a slack leash.

Begin walking but keep a close eye on your dog. If she starts to move ahead of you, immediately do a U-turn

and walk in the other direction. The U-turn takes her away from the item that she is pulling towards. U-turns on their own aren't enough as they just tell the dog when she did something wrong. You'll also need to add in rewards for polite behavior so she knows what she should be doing instead. Keep a small bag of treats handy. If your dog is walking next to you without pulling, give her small pieces of treat. You can also praise her enthusiastically when she is next to you. As you keep this up, you'll notice your dog spending more and more time walking with you instead of dragging you down the street.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Lakeland Hills Golf Course Saturday – June 23



Sign up today for this fun event which welcomes everyone from beginning beagles to golf hounds intent on birdie-hunting.

Entry fee of \$85 per person includes 18 holes of golf, 2 carts per foursome, 4 refreshments per person, hotdogs at The Turn, steak dinner at the Clubhouse, games and prizes!

More information at chspets.org or contact Melissa at (517)787-7387 x 29 or mwoodhurst@chspets.org

2011 BY THE NUMBERS

789 cats and dogs were adopted – 378 cats and 411 dogs.

856 pets were spayed or neutered through SNAP – our spay and neuter assistance program.

1,053 lost and found reports were taken with 525 pets reunited with their families.

PLANNED GIVING

Even the smallest gift goes a long way to help abandoned and abused animals. By making provisions in your Last Will and Testament, Life Insurance Policy, IRA Account, or Charitable Trust, you can help us continue our valuable programs to protect the animals. Please contact Melissa Woodhurst at mwoodhurst@chspets.org or (517) 787-7387 x 29 for more information.

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Cascades Humane Society

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(Board Chairman of CHS)

County Tower Building
Downtown Jackson

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VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHT

Jen Graves

Jen Graves started volunteering with Cascades Humane Society after being referred to us by Work Services, Inc. Jen volunteers at CHS two days a week, has never missed a day, and she takes great pride in her work.

Jen spends her spare time taking care of her beloved dog, Red and playing basketball with her Special Olympic teammates. Jen's basketball team placed first in the regional division this year.

Cascades Humane Society is very fortunate to have a volunteer as dedicated as Jen and we look forward to working with her in the years to come.



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Supporting Cascades Humane Society's efforts to provide loving homes for Jackson's homeless pets.



Adam
Susan Dehncke's horse

FOSTER OPPORTUNITIES

This has been one of the mildest winters Michigan's seen in years and while the extra sunshine has been enjoyed by all, we are bracing for a particularly busy kitten season this year.

Early breeding during these warmer times means that CHS will see a larger influx of kittens and a longer kitten season as a result. As you can imagine, space can be a little tight and our resources are stretched to the limit in such a busy time. However, we are always looking to improve our capacity for caring for all of these unwanted animals when the time comes. Our shelter has a wonderful network of foster care families that each do their part to help us expand our ability to care for kittens. The time,

effort and love that these families provide help the animals thrive and grow to be strong, healthy and adoptable.

Since this year promises to be a tough one when it comes to kittens, we are looking to build up our number of foster care families in preparation for the busy times soon to come. The shelter provides all of the supplies and covers all medical expenses while the animals are in your care; you provide the love. If you and your family are interested in helping young animals flourish and grow, please contact our Admissions Coordinator Amanda Gaston at agaston@chspets.org or (517) 787-7387 x 15 for more details on the shelter's foster program.

We promise that it will be the toughest job you'll ever love.



WISH LIST

- Bleach
- Dog/Cat Toys
- Dog/Cat Collars
- Dog Leashes
- Cat Litter (clay)
- Dog/Cat Food (dry)
- Gas Gift Cards
- Kitten/Puppy Formula
- Hose Reel
- Garden Hoses
- Large Garbage Bags
- Foil Litter Pans
- Latex Gloves
- Laundry Detergent
- Office Supplies
- Paper Towels
- Stackable Plastic Chairs
- Photo Paper
- Tissues
- Copy Paper
- MONETARY DONATIONS
- VOLUNTEERS