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Safe Haven of Iowa County



The Paw Press

Changing Lives, One Adoption At A Time

February 2025

A Cautionary Tale

A new warning has been announced by the FDA. Previously, they have stated that the sweetener Xylitol was being used in peanut butter and was toxic to dogs. Now the ingredient is being listed under other names. Xylitol is a sweetener that is found in a wide range of products. It might also go by other names, including sugar alcohols, wood sugar, birch sugar, and birch bark extract. Some items that include Xylitol are:

- Sugar-free sweets and peanut butter
- Mouthwashes, oral rinses, and toothpastes
- Cough syrups and liquid medicines for adults and children
- Other types of medicines like nasal sprays
- Dietary supplements (like fiber gummies and sleep aids)



Xylitol poisoning can start within 20 minutes!!

Signs include:

- Vomiting
- Decreased activity level
- Weakness and collapse
- Difficulty walking or standing
- Shaking or seizures
- Coma
- Liver failure
- Bleeding problems

XYLITOL poisoning can KILL your dog.

Call your vet, emergency animal clinic, or animal poison control center if you think your dog has eaten a product containing XYLITOL. Every second counts!!

Treatment (only to be administered by a veterinarian) may include inducing your pet to vomit and providing supportive care and medications to stabilize blood sugar and electrolyte levels. Medications may be administered to protect the liver and gastrointestinal tract. Your dog will be monitored for liver enzyme activity, blood clotting, and potassium levels for 2-3 days.



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EVERY SECOND COUNTS!!

January Adoptions



ACE



DIEZ



TWOOTIE



NINER



SEVENAH



CLOVER



JACKSON



SEISAL



TREY



FEIGHTH



BOOMER &
LILIBET



MR GUS &
PONY GIRL

More January Adoptions



ANYA



CLARICE



CARY



BLONDIE



SUNSHINE



MR. FUZZBALL



ANDY



ALINA



EUGENE



DORY &
SEBASTIAN

Even More January Adoptions!



BRISBY



ITTY BITTY



ASHER



POSEY



KATE



RICKY



SANCHO



ZURI



ROXIE



JEDI



GEORGE &
RIVER

Thank you!



Robin and Dorothy Moulds generously donated a dog treadmill. Robin has trained dogs for Safe haven in the past and gave us some helpful hints on acclimating our dogs to the treadmill so they love it.



Tamara Patterson and her daughter surprised us with wrapped gifts for our pups. Santa would have a hard time finding two more busy and generous elves.



Visitors

We were happy to have Marcia Kilgard and her small companion animal class from Iowa Valley High School (shown here with volunteer Everett) visit and take a tour of our facilities. Hopefully, we have some future volunteers in this group!



www.wesavepets.com
319-622-7387

Safe Haven

Soup Supper Fundraiser
March 8th
4:00 PM - 6:30 PM



Volunteer Sign Up Links

Workers: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090D49AAA82FA3FB6-47669354-2024#/>

Food: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090D49AAA82FA3FB6-54501306-2025>



Please share any stories or
photos with Shelley
at
updates@wesavepets.com

New Kids on the Block



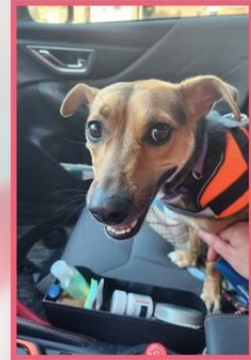
HOPE



RICKY



SAM



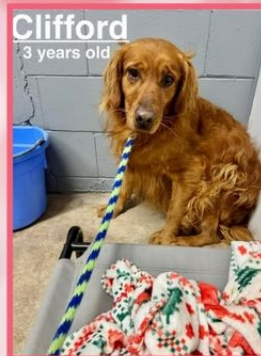
ZURI



J.J.



CANNON



CLIFFORD



DORY



SEBASTIAN



SANCHO



WINTER



NOODLES

More New Kids on the Block



SYLVIE



MISA



SANDOR



MISSY



PEARL

Alumni



Aww, our boy Stewie is living the life we all wanted for him. Loved and spoiled with all the comforts a dog could ask for.



Happy 5th Birthday to our beautiful boy, Sinatra! He just gets better with age.



Mookie and Midge have spent a whole year as best pals in the furever home.



Oatmeal, now Oatty, has been a true gift to his new family.



Lilibet and Boomer have settled into their new home so well!

We so appreciate and look forward to updates on our cats and dogs that are adopted from Safe Haven. It truly warms our hearts when we get to see and share happy endings for these critters. Past adoptive families, feel free to send us an email at adoptions@wesavepets.com with your pet's progress and updated pictures to be featured!

Lottie's Story

Lottie was born around the beginning of October. Although life started out okay, it soon took an unexpected and dangerous turn. Lottie and her mom and sister were discovered in a cat carrier that had been thrown in a ditch when she was a day or two old. It was a hot day and no food was found near the carrier. Luckily, the carrier was seen by a passerby who knew to call Safe Haven.

Soon mama and babies were taken to a foster home where they were given a safe quiet place to recover from the trauma of their last 24 hours. Everyone was eating with gusto after settling down into their new nest. When they were calm, our volunteer foster checked the kittens over to see if they were boys or girls. At this time she noticed that one of the kitten's back legs seem to be frozen and were sticking out behind her. No other immediate health concerns were seen so the little family was given time to settle in.

When transporting them to Safe Haven to be checked over by volunteer veterinarian, Dr. Barb Roland, it was noticed that mama, Posey, became very agitated when she was placed in a carrier and moved anywhere. As most mother cats do when they feel their kittens are in danger, she scooped up the nearest kitten in her mouth to prepare to run away and hide her. Posey was so scared she was not very gentle with her kittens during times when she was being transported. This became so severe that the kittens and Posey were put in separate carriers after that initial trip to Safe Haven.

Dr. Roland gave all three a thorough examination, specifically checking the legs of the kitten soon to be named Lottie. They seemed a little more relaxed than the day before and Dr. Roland hoped that the "tincture of time" would provide healing and the kitten would develop normally. It is unclear if Lottie had been injured when the crate was thrown in the ditch or whether her mama had done some damage when she panicked.

As Lottie grew and became more active, it became apparent that she was not developing like her sister, Lilibet. She zoomed around her room at the foster's home, but she didn't use her back legs. More examinations were done to check for symptoms of disorders like Swimmer Kitten Syndrome. Since the signs didn't quite line up, a diagnosis still couldn't be decided. Once Lottie was eating solid food, an x-ray was scheduled at Frey Animal Hospital. These x-rays did reveal an injury that had healed. No further improvement was expected for Lottie.

Lottie didn't pay much attention to her diagnosis. She taught herself to climb up on beds and recliners. She discovered all sorts of mischief to get into. She easily kept up with her sister, Lilibet. She is just a happy healthy kitten who gets things done in a different way.

One thing Dr. Roland needed to determine a plan for Lottie's future was to find out if Lottie had control of her bowels and bladder, so she took over fostering her. Since Lottie had been seen playing in the litterbox at her first foster home, Dr. Roland set up a dog crate with a litterbox, food and water. She noticed that Lottie was using the litterbox when she was in the crate but did not go back to the litterbox when she was out playing. So, Dr. Roland ordered some tiny kitten diapers and onesies for playtime. Dr. Roland did notice that Lottie would twitch her tail rapidly when she needed to poop, and she also twitches her legs and clenches her toes, which indicates that the nerves to her legs are damaged but not severed.

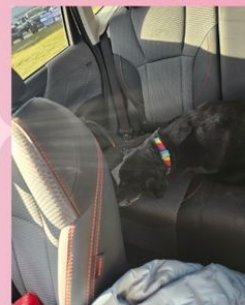
It has still been noticed that Lottie is not using her litterbox 100% of the time. Her ideal home would be with someone who has extra time for diaper changes, baths, and laundry that Lottie requires. She will repay you with lots of purrs and snuggles. She is such a happy-go-lucky girl!



Out and About



Zuri was the lucky visitor at Briarwood this month. She had a great time meeting with residents. It turns out, many of them had owned a beagle at some time in their life. Most agreed that there was some "wiener dog" in Zuri's pedigree somewhere.



Doc made his second visit to Briarwood in January. He was a distinguished gentleman...when he wasn't looking for snacks! Meeting with your fan club is a lot of work and Doc was snoozing on the car ride home.



Lottie, who suffered a spinal injury when she was 1 day old, was the belle of the ball at Highland Ridge! She was the recipient of so much sweet talking and snuggles.



Cannon, our super-sized Golden Retriever, was also a humongous hit at Highland Ridge. He's such a gentle giant.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Contributions

Safe Haven has recently received several donations from people taking advantage of the Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) plan available for those who have a 401K or tax qualified investments and are receiving Required Minimum Distributions (for those over 72 years of age). A donation given through this program can become tax free income and there by lower your federal taxes. There are a few rules as to how the money is given, so you should consult with your financial advisor and/or tax consultant. It is a great idea to give to the critters at Safe Haven and save money on your taxes at the same time!

Donate Redeemable Cans and Bottles



\$1,300 that was gathered from our community will be given directly back into the community to spay/neuter and vaccinate community cats - and hopefully help reduce the number of unwanted cats being born each year in Iowa County! So if you have donated your recycled cans/bottles to us, please know our volunteers that run this program appreciate your support, and are so happy to work together with you all to make a positive impact in our community!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Are you looking for a feel-good volunteer opportunity?? You love animals, you say? We may have the perfect gig for you!

We are looking for direct-care dog volunteers. Whether you're looking to snuggle with our dogs or you're looking for a few extra steps in your day and would enjoy taking dogs for a walk on our beautiful trails - we have it all!!

A volunteer application can be found on our website at www.wesavepets.com. Once an application is submitted, our volunteer coordinator will reach out to set up an orientation.

NEEDED:

Weekday mornings for both dogs and cats
weekends evenings for dogs

Taking Care of Business

Financial News:

December Expenses

Supplies	1,449.35
Payroll & Taxes	5,636.66
Spay/Neuter Program	1,357.37
Specialty Vet Services	352.80
Surgery Suite Supplies	1,508.86
Water	96.46
Electric	381.96
Internet/Phone	103.65
Website/Newsletter	28.36
Fundraising	120.00
Garbage	40.00
Accounting Services	379.88
Office Supplies	161.80
Insurance	6,539.00
Capital Equipment	1,315.35
TOTAL	\$19,471.50



Surgical Suite Update:

January

Cat surgical suite:

- 7 spays and 3 neuters
- 7 rabies vaccines
- 12 distemper vaccines
- 14 doses of wormers
- 4 doses ear meds
- 7 doses of Revolution
- 11 nail trims
- 5 FIV/FelV tests
- 11 microchips
- 1 lab sample
- 1 in house fecal
- 4 ear cleanings
- 1 urinalysis
- 1 long acting antibiotic injection

Dog surgical suite

- 3 spays
- 6 rabies vaccines
- 6 distemper vaccines
- 6 Bordetella vaccines
- 2 nail trims
- 3 4DX heartworm tests
- 2 microchips
- 9 blood draws
- 2 stool samples
- 2 dental cleanings
- 1 lab sample
- 3 urinalysis
- removal of 14 growths
- 4 wormers

Safe Haven Board Members



Courtney
Ralph



Amanda
Wiebold



Elly
Hoehnle



Kimberly
Buresh



Nancy
Kohrt



Susan
Shaull-
Scheer



Colleen
Bowers

Board Meetings

Safe Haven's Board of Directors meets on the **first Tuesday of every month via Zoom at 6:30pm**. If you ever have concerns or questions that you would like to discuss with the board, please feel free to attend the first half an hour of the board meeting. If you are unable to attend at that time, you can always email the shelter at adoptions@wesavepets.com, with your concerns.



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or

Share with
a friend!



Building Location:
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Mailing Address:
P O Box 444
Williamsburg, IA 52361



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