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Changing Lives, One Adoption At A Time

March 2024

March Kitten Madness



In any given year, kitten season at Safe Haven is generally 6-8 months long. Sometimes it surprises us in March and sometimes it hangs around until December. Kittens that come through our doors in December are usually older kittens that may need some socialization and get snapped up pretty quickly.

In 2023, kitten season arrived in April. We began receiving calls about orphaned kittens found in city neighborhoods with cat colonies or kittens born to mamas who weren't the greatest at selecting a spot for their nest. We were getting requests to take in larger litters of kittens as well. Most years seemed to be marked by litters of 3 or 4 kittens. Litters of 5 kittens were considered large but in 2023 became the norm and litters as large as 7 were arriving. And they just kept coming.

Most litters required specialized care as respiratory and intestinal problems seemed to break out and travel through each kitten. Blood and stool samples were sent to labs and medications and supportive care such as probiotics and sub Q fluids were fine tuned. Some kittens required round the clock intensive care and Safe Haven is blessed to have fosters who are experienced in giving much needed treatments and who are willing to lose sleep to keep these little ones alive.

As fosters and volunteers waited to breathe a sigh of relief at the end of another kitten season, board members were asked to help out in homes where multiple litters of kittens along with many adult cats had become a situation that people were no longer able to care for this many cats and kittens. At least one of these situations began with the best intentions as the homeowner tried to care for local strays. But, with adult cats that were not spayed or neutered living together under one roof, a population explosion was just waiting to happen. Soon a few mouths to feed became dozens and illnesses were threatening the lives of kittens with immature immune systems.



The first large scale rescue mission began last December. 38 cats and kittens were residing in one home. Safe Haven took in 24 kittens under 1 year of age and transported the remainder to Iowa Humane Alliance (IHA) to be spayed or neutered and then were either rehomed or returned to the owner.

Each kitten received normal vetting which included distemper vaccinations, wormers, flea medication, and ear mite medication. Rabies vaccinations were given to those over four months of age. Additionally, blood work/stool samples were sent in to help diagnose illnesses, oral and eye antibiotics were given, along with food and probiotics. The cost is approximately \$127 per kitten for a total cost of \$3040.

The 14 adult cats cost approximately \$80 per cat including the cost of spay and neuter surgeries and vaccinations for a total of \$1120. That brings the total of this mission to \$4160.

Most recently, Safe Haven has assisted in another population explosion in Iowa County. 2 mother cats and 12 kittens were taken in and 28 adult cats are being spayed and neutered at IHA and Farm & Family Veterinary in Victor. Most of the kittens are showing signs of upper respiratory and eye infections. Unfortunately, some kittens appeared to have suffered from a skin condition recently and at least 2 have tested positive for ringworm. This extends their stay at Safe Haven as they receive medications and baths until skin scrapings and hair samples no longer test positive for the fungus.

Treatment for ringworm alone will cost approximately \$30 per cat or kitten. Total cost for each cat and kitten from this rescue that has been taken to Safe Haven will run around around \$110 per cat for a total of \$1,540. The 28 cats that will be spayed and neutered will cost approximately \$80 per cat for a total of \$2240. The total of this rescue will be about \$3780.

In a few month's time, Safe Haven will have spent nearly \$8,000. All before kitten season has officially started. These situations alone are a very good reason to consider reaching out to Safe Haven to trap, spay, and neuter large groups of cats, whether outside colonies of feral cats or indoor cats. You can help support this vital mission by donating funds to help with vaccinations, medications, and surgeries or by donating redeemable cans and bottles that we collect to help defray the costs of surgeries.



February Adoptions



NOVA



NYSSA &
ELINOR



BALOO



LANCELOT



DELLA



FARLEY



MOOKIE



FIGARO &
AMBER



ZARA



YOGI



NATHAN



GUINEVERE

More February Adoptions



GEORGE



SVEN (WITH
BEST BUDDY,
IZZY)



Alumni



Chloe has grown into a fine figure of a cat. She is so lovey and talks a lot now.



Della is always glued to the tube.



Blake was adopted from Safe Haven twelve years ago, and he's still going strong!

New Kids on the Block



FARLEY



DODGER



ABBIE ROSE



MACKENZIE

More New Kids



Events



BIDDING ALERT

A couple Hawkeye Football players were so kind to showcase this adorable cat-themed crib/lap quilt (measures 57" x 43") made by one of our volunteers, Peg Lown, who donated the quilt to help raise funds for our shelter pets.

Online bidding can be found on Safe Haven's Facebook page and will end next Thursday, March 14th at 6:00pm. Please follow along in the comments in order to place your bid ... the person with the winning bid at the end of the on-line auction will be the very lucky owner of this quilt!

www.wesavepets.com
319-622-7387

Safe Haven
Soup Supper Fundraiser
March 2nd
4:00 PM - 6:30 PM

St. Paul's
United Methodist Church
803 Clearview Drive
Williamsburg, Iowa

\$10 for Soup w/ toppings, bread & dessert
\$7 for soup to go \$5 for desserts

Thank you to everyone who supported the soup supper in one or another! We had a steady stream of hungry customers from beginning to end and served 105 people and another 24 people took home soup and pie. Everything was delicious so we hope you tried more than one item.

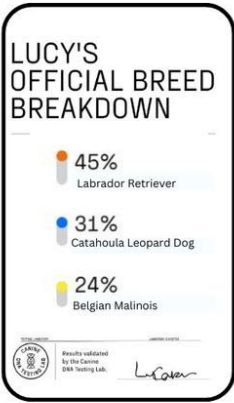
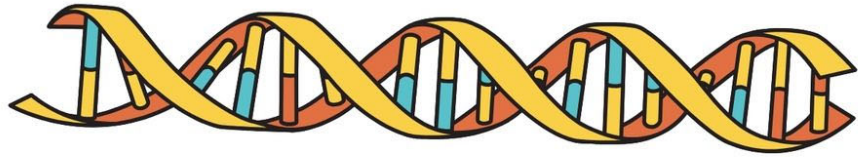
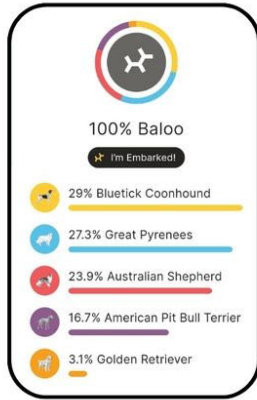
THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS,
HOME CHEFS & HELPERS:

| | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| AMANA MEAT SHOP | JEFF KRUSE | ELLY HOEHNLE |
| BIG G FOODS | SHELLEY BERGER | MARY ROGGENTIEN |
| BROTHERS MARKET | DONNA PALMER | JANET MCCUNE |
| FAREWAY FOODS | JILL SMOTHERS | HOLLY GEGER |
| SUSAN SHAULLSCHEER | PEG LOWN | NANCY KOHRT |
| MARY MCCORD | KARI HEINZE | STACY NELZIL |
| KATIE MUNN | SHELLA FRASCHT | JOHN ROSS |
| JERE MURRAY | MARLY SMITH | SHERYL NEAL |
| BECKY CLAYPOOL | PAT HIGBY | MIKE ROUSE |
| PEGGY WARDENBURG | KIMBERLY BURESH | JENNY DILLE |
| ZOE HULSEBURG | JULIE MURLEY | DANIELLE BYRN |

Next Event: The Spring Plant Sale on May 9th, 10th, & 11th



What kinda dog is that?



Out and About with Gabbie & Elinor



Gabbie has been out & about with one of our amazing volunteers, Michelle, who has taken her to a couple of local obedience classes over the last few weeks. She reports that Gabbie is doing well and is working on a few basic commands like “sit & wait” and “down & stay.” Gabbie even took a brief shopping trip to a few stores after class - she’s one happy and very lucky girl!



Elinor was the star for 98.1 KHAK’s Furry Friday this month. She loved all of the attention from Courtlin and Brain - and she especially loved the black leather couch!!



THANK YOU!

A big shout out to the Black Squirrel Tap in Swisher for bringing so many wonderful donations along with some cold hard cash to our critters!

Donate some time at Safe Haven and you will get back so much more! We have volunteer opening for lots of different abilities such as:

- Direct care such as dog walking, litterbox cleaning, feeding, medicating, and providing enrichment and, of course, lots of love!
- Outdoor and building projects.
- Fostering and socializing both young and old.
- Community cat trapping & transport for our spay and neuter project.
- General cleaning and organizing.
- Event planning and assisting at events.

Fill out a volunteer form at

wesavepets.com

or ask for more information.

Volunteer training occurs the first Sunday of every month.

SUNDAY, MARCH 3RD @ 3:00 PM
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6TH @ 6:00 PM
SATURDAY, MARCH 16TH @ 12:00 PM

NEW VOLUNTEER ORIENTATIONS

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Dog and Cat volunteers needed please join us!



Don't Forget!

Bring us your cans and bottles!
The money is used to support our Trap/Spay/Neuter/Return program for feral and community cats.
For more information, email Mary at adoptions@wesavepets.com.

Taking Care of Business

Financial News:

December Expenses

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| Supplies | 3,047.99 |
| Capital Equipment | 1,094.62 |
| Payroll & Taxes | 5,109.90 |
| IHA Spay/Neuter | 215.00 |
| Specialized Vet | 365.41 |
| Surgery Suite Supplies | 1,814.56 |
| Water | 111.88 |
| Electric | 410.00 |
| Internet/Phone | 103.92 |
| Fundraising | 91.00 |
| Bank Fee | 20.00 |
| Garbage | 35.00 |
| Accounting Services | 430.56 |
| Office Supplies | 83.45 |
| Insurance | <u>4,512.00</u> |
| TOTAL | \$17,445.29 |



February Surgical Suite Update:

Cat surgical suite:

- 3 spays and 6 neuters
- 9 microchips
- 41 doses of wormers
- 35 doses ear meds
- 43 distemper vaccines
- 11 rabies vaccines
- 11 doses of Revolution
- 5 nail trims
- 11 FIV/FelV tests
- 1 urinalysis
- 2 sub q fluids
- 1 kidney removal
- 7 lab samples
- 4 ear cleanings
- 2 injections of serum
- 1 ultrasound

Dog surgical suite

- 2 spays
- 1 neuter
- 5 rabies vaccines
- 5 distemper vaccines
- 5 Bordetella vaccines
- 3 nail trims
- 3 microchips
- 5 heartworm tests
- 1 dew claw removal
- 1 suture removal
- 4 blood draws
- 1 stool sample
- 2 lab samples
- 2 ear cleanings
- 2 urinalysis
- 1 dental

Safe Haven Board Members



Courtney
Ralph



Amy
Reihman



Andrea
Prymek



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.



Like us on
Facebook!

or

Share with
a friend!



Building Location:
2783 Highway 6 Trail
South Amana, IA 52334
Phone : 319 622 7387

Mailing Address:
P O Box 444
Williamsburg, IA 52361



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