



Changing Lives, One Adoption At A Time

October 2024



Ringworm: It's Personal

by Shelley Berger

Kitten season is still going strong and we are receiving requests to take in many cute and fuzzy kittens along with their mamas. Rarely is there a groan when a new batch arrives in the surgical exam room. Our team is pretty eager to get our hands on the little bundles, even if they are a bit spicy.

Each kitten receives multiple exams during their stay at Safe Haven. Most exams are accompanied by a lot of cuddling and sweet talk as kittens are looked over from cute little nose to the tip of their tail. Sometimes the cuddling is brought to an abrupt stop when someone mutters "Uh, oh." If this is followed by a request for the black light, all the kittens get placed back in their carrier or surgical kennel like they are a bomb ready to detonate. You see, some cute and fuzzy little bundles bring some friends with them, a fungus commonly known as ringworm. Anyone who has directly cared for cats or dogs at Safe Haven knows ringworm is a big disruption in the daily routine at our South Amana site or in the homes of our fosters.

As a Safe Haven kitten foster, I have happily housed 84 cats and kittens in my ringworm-free house. It was #85 that broke my record and he did a bang up job of it, too. Not only did he pass it to me (not surprising since I had plastered him with kisses upon meeting him) but he also passed it to my 2 housecats and my Cocker Spaniel (not surprising either since Henry has to stick his nose in everybody's business.) Luckily the kitten, now named Bartholomeow, is absolutely adorable and it's very hard to hold a grudge against something that comes running for attention, purring the entire time, even after a dose of yucky medicine, or being flipped this way or that to check for more spots, or bath time. He still happily weaves around your ankles or jumps in your lap ready to give you some unabashed loving.

I've dealt with the occasional spot of ringworm in the past, but having 4 critters in the house show up with little circles of missing hair has taught me a whole new level of treatment. Now I know all about how it is spread and what happens in the minimum 7 weeks of treatment and isolation.



The Merck Veterinary Manual informs us that ringworm is an infection of skin, hair, or claws caused by a type of fungus known as a dermatophyte. In cats, the fungus is spread easily in the environment and often infects people.

The fungi spread to people primarily by contact with infected cats and contaminated objects, such as furniture or grooming tools. Broken hairs with associated spores are important sources for spread of the disease. Contact does not always result in infection. Whether infection is established depends on the fungal species and on host factors, including age, health, immune system, condition of exposed skin surfaces, grooming habits, and nutrition. Infection leads to temporary resistance to reinfection. Under most circumstances, dermatophytes grow only in the dead cells of skin and hair, and infection stops on reaching living cells or inflamed tissue. As inflammation and host immunity develop, further spread of infection stops, but this process may take several weeks. Kittens and longhaired cats may have more persistent and widespread infections.

The appearance of ringworm varies in cats. Kittens are most likely to be infected. Infected cats can develop bald, scaly, crusted patches with broken hairs. The most common areas for ringworm to occur are the face, ear tips, tail, and feet. Some cats develop small, solid bumps on the skin (called miliary dermatitis) that itch. Cats with widespread ringworm often have larger bumps with open sores.

Veterinarians diagnose ringworm by fungal culture, examination with an ultraviolet (black light) lamp, and direct microscopic examination of hair or skin scale. Fungal culture of hairs and scrapings from the affected areas is the most accurate method, but can take days to a week. A positive result obtained with an ultraviolet lamp may allow early diagnosis, but the results are not always reliable and need to be verified with a fungal culture. Only about 50% of ringworm sites fluoresce.

Safe Haven's protocol is to place cats or dogs in isolation rooms away from other animals until samples of hair, skin scrapings, and nails clippings come back negative for ringworm. While in isolation, the animals are in contact with as few humans as possible. Since ringworm spores are airborne, as much that can be done to prevent the movement of air between isolation rooms and the rest of the building is put in place as soon as possible. This includes taping plastic sheeting up around the isolation room, and protecting people from contamination with surgical gowns, booties, and gloves. Isolation rooms and kennels are regularly sanitized. Cats and dogs are regularly bathed with antifungal shampoo. They also have antifungal lotion applied to visible spots. Dogs receive oral medication for a minimum of 30 days. Oral medication is hard on the liver, cats receive oral medication every other week over a 7-week period to prevent toxicity.

Since the spores spread like wildfire, all intakes are limited to the most necessary. Animals in foster care are kept there if possible, until the risk of being exposed has passed.

During the lengthy care for animals with ringworm, we are overwhelmed with a huge amount of gratitude for those who do the hands-on care and cleaning during the outbreak. Not only are they protecting everyone from contamination, they are also providing all the love and attention the cats and dogs would usually receive from dozens of people.

September Adoptions



JUNIPER
JAMES



SOX



TANGERINE



LUCY



ZACH



GRACIE



BELLADONNA



LOVERBOY



GUS



ELVIS & BJORN

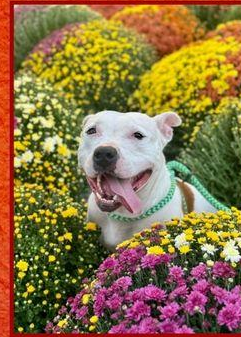


PUDDIN'



Fall Plant Sale

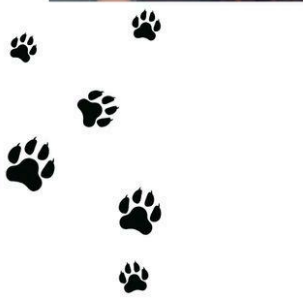
Thanks to every volunteer and visitor for making our fall plant sale another success! We made over \$7,000 this year.



THE ADVENTURES OF **DORA & DIEGO**



This Dynamic Duo road tripped over to the big city to see the sights and hang out with the cool crew at KHAK.



98.1 KHAK



Grand Living at Bridgewater in Coralville

Look at all these happy faces (human and animal)! Our Pet Adoption Day brought so many smiles! Safe Haven's volunteers brought several friendly, well-mannered pets who were seeking their forever home and there are many more at their rescue shelter. Grand Living allows pets and many of our residents have a dog or cat to keep them company!



New Kids on the Block

October is Adopt a Shelter Dog Month!



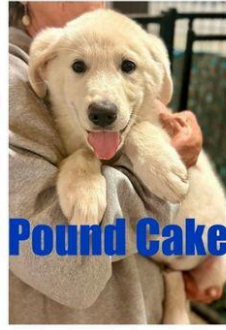
Honey Bun

HONEY BUN



French Toast

FRENCH TOAST



Pound Cake

POUND CAKE



WAFFLES



AGGIE



GUS



BELLADONNA



JUNIPER JAMES



ANDY



LOVER BOY



ELVIS



GRACIE



More New Kids on the Block



SNOW WHITE



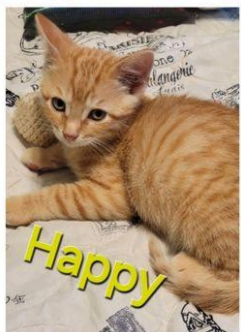
DOC



SLEEPY



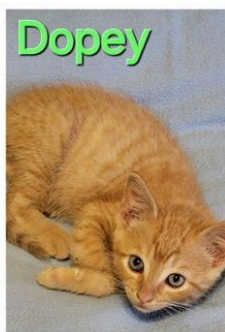
SNEEZY



HAPPY



GRUMPY



DOPEY



BASHFUL



BJORN



ROSIE



MISS IZZIE



LULU

Alumni



DUG (FORMERLY DOUG)



Dug is doing great in his new home. His personality is showing more and more. He made fast friends with the outdoor farm cat. He loves going on walks so we try to go daily. He has worked up to a mile without needing to flop down frog-style in the grass to rest. His humans did a doggie DNA test. Turns out he is 100% American Pit Bull Terrier. Not a mix at all. He makes everyone laugh on a daily basis and he is the best cuddlebug.



Casey, now Missy, loves lounging around looking beautiful.



Chickpea and Garbanzo are still inseparable.



"Gabbie loves her balls still, we just keep her favorite ones inside now, and use tennis balls outside just in case they roll away"

Bubba likes to help with groceries!



PAINT-A-PET

October 8th
5:00pm-6:30pm
@ the Springmier Library



**Pets will
be
present!**

Join the library and Safe Haven of Iowa County for this "do-your-best" painting class where you can unleash your inner artist and paint some cute, adoptable pets!



Thank you!



Recently, we discovered that Bella has cancerous tumors in her mammary glands. Since the cancer is aggressive and treatment would leave her in too much pain, it was decided to ask someone to provide hospice care during her remaining time. Our amazing fosters, Annie-lie and Sara, who have experience with hospice care, have offered a home and a sunny spot in a window for Bella as long as she needs.

Oktoberfest

Help support
Safe Haven
of Iowa County
at our annual
Oktoberfest Bake Sale
Friday, October 4, 1-5 pm
Saturday, October 5, 9-5
709 47th Avenue
Amana, Iowa

Safe Haven
of Iowa County

Oktoberfest

Safe Haven of Iowa County

Safe Haven
of Iowa County

QUILT RAFFLE

Handmade by Peg Lown

Win this unique, handmade quilt, all while helping
Safe Haven of Iowa County!

The quilt is on display inside the
Amana Colonies Visitors Center.

Tickets
\$1.00 each
or 6/\$5.00

Tickets can be purchased at
Heritage Designs Inc. Quilting and
Needlework (located next to the
Amana Colonies Visitors Center).

Drawing will be held on
October 6th, 2024.
Need not be present to win.

VFW AUXILIARY • 208 STATE ST • WILLIAMSBURG, IA



NOVEMBER 9, 2024 • 8AM

Support A Vet Save A Pet 5K

Registration at 7am. Race starts 8am

SCAN TO REGISTER:



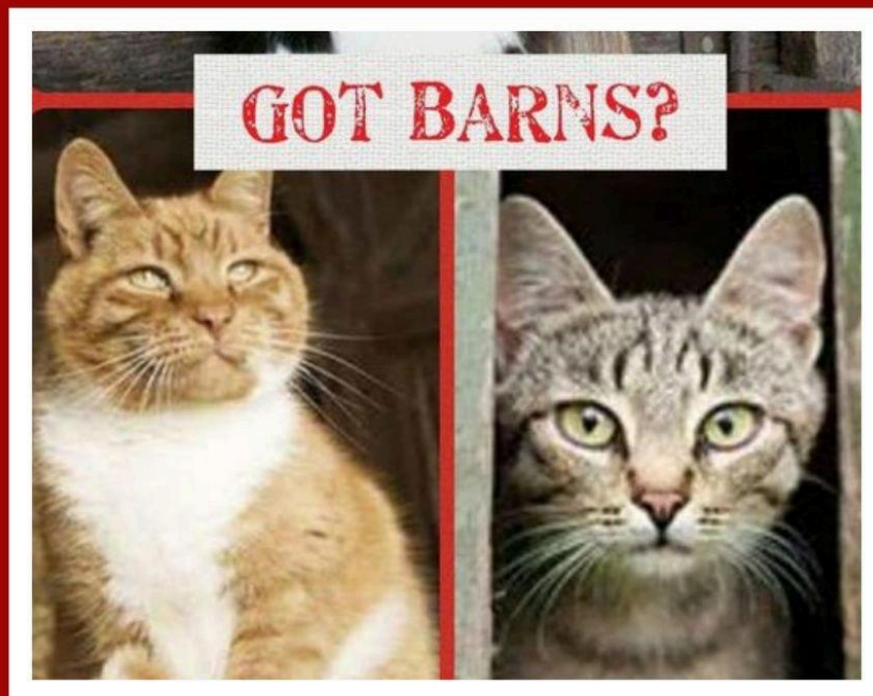
REGISTER BEFORE RACE DAY \$20
DAY OF RACE REGISTRATION \$25

REGISTER PRIOR TO 10/15/2024
TO RECEIVE A FREE T-SHIRT



<http://supportavetsaveapet5k.ludus.com>

The VFW Auxiliary Post 8797 and Safe Haven of Iowa County are teaming up to raise funds for our local veterans and our local animal shelter with the "Support A Vet, Save A Pet" 5K and one-mile fun run/walk!! This is the first ever joint-event between these two great organizations, please join us and help make it a success! There will also be a Waffle Breakfast following the event at St Paul's United Methodist Church in Williamsburg for everyone to enjoy - so it is full morning of activities and ways to support useven if you aren't a runner! Registration is already open so RUN or WALK over to the link below to sign up: www.supportavetsaveapet5k.ludus.com/



Looking for a potential mouser or “working cat”? We may be able to help! Safe Haven has recently had several calls and emails from people that are looking for new homes for community cats that they have found outside. Many are feral or under socialized, and they just need a safe, permanent home where someone can make sure their needs are being met!

Sadly our shelter is often not able to take these less socialized kitties in as adoptable cats, but we would love to still help find them new homes, at no cost to someone interested in providing a safe environment for them. All current vetting fees (spayed/neutered and vaccinated) are covered by Safe Haven, so they are available at no cost - just a promise to meet their needs.

So if you have a barn/shop/stable/warehouse that could provide shelter and daily food and water for this type of cat - please email our Safe Haven volunteer Courtney at: cralph@wesavepets.com



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!!

We have a couple evening shifts looking for extra help - Tuesday & Saturday PMs. But we are always looking for volunteers, whenever it may work with your schedule - contact us today to visit about our volunteer needs!

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.



Taking Care of Business

Financial News:

July Expenses

Supplies	1,822.64
Payroll & Taxes	7,221.83
Community Spay/Neuter	3,867.17
Surgery Suite Supplies	646.69
Water	96.46
Electric	625.42
Internet/Phone	103.07
Garbage	40.00
Accounting Services	463.72
Bank Fees	5.35
Grounds & Maintenance	133.75
Newsletter Expense	28.36
Enrichment Committee	72.19
TOTAL	\$15,126.65

September Surgical Suite Update:

Cat surgical suite:

- 8 spays
- 11 neuters
- 16 microchips
- 38 doses of wormers
- 16 doses ear meds
- 36 distemper vaccines
- 8 rabies vaccines
- 24 doses of Revolution
- 14 nail trims
- 3 FIV/FelV tests
- 1 urinalysis

Dog surgical suite

- 1 spay
- 4 Distemper vaccines
- 7 Bordetella vaccines
- 1 heartworm/4DX test
- 1 microchip
- 2 anal gland expressions
- 1 urinalysis
- 1 lab sample
- 1 allergy injection



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!



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