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November 2024

Running with an Idea

by Amanda Weibold



Pictured with my husband, Dustin, who served seven years in the US Marine Corps, our ten year old daughter, Ally, and our four beagles; Allie, Archie, Buster & Bo. Archie & Buster were both adopted from Safe Haven. Allie & Bo were born deaf.

My husband, Dustin, and I have been volunteers with Safe Haven since October 2021 and I have been a member of the VFW Auxiliary Post 8797 in Williamsburg IA since August 2022. Part of the VFW Auxiliary's mission is community outreach; to be active and visible in local communities by helping other organizations achieve their goals and objectives.

I have had the "thought" of hosting a 5K for a couple years now; signs along the route picturing local veterans with their time of service and Safe Haven's adoptable cats and dogs with their intake date as their "time of service" in the shelter, who I would reach out to for donations such as water, signage, supplies, etc., who I would contact for sponsorship, and how I would get the word out for free. For several months, if I couldn't sleep at night, I would put notes in my phone of businesses I thought I should contact, what route should be used because I don't run, or what important information

I needed to place on the flier to draw attention to increase participation. In May, I mentioned the "Support A Vet, Save A Pet" 5K at our monthly VFW Auxiliary meeting and soon I saw my vision come to life. Volunteers from both organizations came together to create a committee that met almost monthly to get this from an idea to an actual event. I attended a city council meeting along with a couple other women from each organization to get approval for the 5K, started making a list of local businesses to contact, drafted my first ever flier and webpage, and made my debut on the radio.

In August, I asked Safe Haven and the VFW Auxiliary what their plan was for the funds that were raised. I wanted this information to be made public so sponsors and donors knew exactly what their money was being used for. Safe Haven opted to use the money to put much needed air conditioning in the portion of their facility known as the Iowa County Pound. The VFW Auxiliary was undecided. I had another "idea"; what if the VFW Auxiliary could use the funds raised to pay for a service dog for a local Iowa County Veteran? I wasn't sure how the whole process would work but I was willing to put in the work to figure out the next steps. Being a wife to a United States Marine Corps veteran and a beagle mom of four, I see the positive impact that animals can make in a veteran's life. I reached out to Jenni Olson, the Iowa County Veterans Affairs Director, to get me pointed in the right direction. Jenni gave me a list of service dog training facilities in the State of Iowa, offered to screen applicants and help us get the word out.

In September, Safe Haven of Iowa County took in a litter of puppies, all were behavior and temperament tested by a trainer from Dog Elite Training in Des Moines and Safe Haven graciously waived the adoption fee. Waffles, now known as Colt, qualified to become Iowa County's newest service dog trainee. At the end of September Colt made the trip to Des Moines to move into his trainer's house where he will live while he undergoes his "basic training" and then move onto PTSD/ therapy training which includes offering emotional assistance, reduction of depression, grounding to the present, aid in the reduction of flashbacks, anchoring the handler to the present and reduction of the risk of suicidal thought and tendencies. All of these skills are so crucial and valuable to our local veterans. His trainer says in just a month's time he has mastered potty training, sit, stay, come, heel, and walking on a leash. You can follow Colt's journey on our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61567104176126>

Without the support of this great community we live in, the committee that saw the same vision and supported my crazy ideas, and these two amazing non-profit organizations none of this would have been possible! We currently have 222 registered participants from 40 different surrounding communities, 76 sponsors from local families and businesses, and have raised more than \$15,000! I am already jotting down ideas for the next 5K; are you interested in how you can help next year, how you can get involved with either organization or have a veteran that you would like featured along the route next year? Please don't hesitate to reach out to awiebold@wesavepets.com. I would love to hear from you!





October Adoptions



FRENCH
TOAST



POUND CAKE



WAFFLES



HONEY BUN



VIVIAN



REBA



ZANE



JEWEL



LILY LILAC



MISS IZZY



CHEERIO



OATMEAL

More October Adoptions



APOLLO &
ARETEMIS



JERRY EDGAR



BAGEL



SLEEPY



MR. FUZZY



HUGS



LULU



ABBY ROSE &
MACKENZIE

Alumni



Vivian is nothing but love! She just needs to convince her Torti sister. No worries, and doesn't let it get her down and they're sure to be friends if Vivian gets her way...which she always does.



Jewel is making great strides with crate training and house training at her new home! She and her new playmate play hard and sleep hard!

More Alumni



"Simon and Sophie, 6 year old litter mates adopted a little over a year ago, names changed back from Wren and Mallie. They've received our love but have shown no real affection in return. Simon has been more accepting but Sophie/wren, the spicy one, jumped on to the arm of my chair tonight!! So happy! We've basically been their adoring slaves so far so I'm thrilled! Hope you remember them and know how happy we are with them!"



When you have Great Danes, your Halloween costume ideas are pretty easy. Here's Kiki, mom, and sis as Scooby Doo characters.



Rennie turns one tomorrow. Thought you would like to see what he looks like now. I named him Meeze (mee-tza) which means kitty in German. He weighs about 12 pounds now.



"Today (10/8) is one year since we adopted Piper and Judy! They are doing very well with us and are so sweet! They are wonderful dogs and we love them so much! Thank you again for the gift of these precious girls! "



"Loverboy, which I now named Maverick, has done a fantastic job with adjusting to his new home! Milo, the first cat I adopted from Safe Haven, accepted Maverick as part of the family fairly quick and now they are both inseparable! Here are some photos of Maverick and Milo!! I am so grateful I had the opportunity to adopt Maverick and I appreciate all the dedication you guys do to take help find these animals loving homes!!"



*On this golden land, they wait and they play,
Till the Rainbow Bridge they cross over one day.
No more do they suffer, in pain or in sadness,
For here they are whole, their lives filled with gladness.*

We said goodbye to Zoe at the end of October. In her 4 years at Safe Haven she developed quite a fan club who loved pampering her and taking her for leisurely walks outside. Anyone could see she loved her Safe Haven family and would do her best to be with them, despite her struggles with joint pain, etc. After many good days, Zoe took a sudden turn for the worse and let us know that she was tired of suffering and was ready to go. She went easily surrounded by those who loved her. Thank you to each and every volunteer who made Safe Haven feel like home to her.

Oktoberfest

Thanks to every volunteer and visitor for making this year's Oktoberfest a day of fun and yummy treats!





New Kids on the Block



NACHO



RIVER,
SUNSHINE, &
MEADOW



BARREL



HARRY BOSCH



DINAH



RICOCHET



JERRY EDGAR



JEWEL



CHEERIO



OATMEAL



BAGEL



SAM

More New Kids on the Block



MR. FUZZY



HONEY
CHANDLER



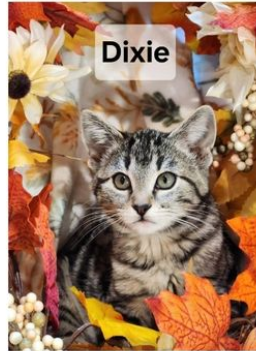
DOC



MARIGOLD



VIKTER



DIXIE



BURKE



ASHER



ROXIE
AND TEN
PUPPIES!!

Out and About with Ricochet



Fun-loving Ricochet was a big hit at Briarwood in October. Who could resist that big grin?



Thank you!

After adopting a beautiful kitten named Ingrid from Safe Haven and attending a presentation given by Safe Haven at Vintage Cooperative of Coralville, Richard and Micki Siewert generously shared funds from an investment account. Their \$5000 donation is such an unexpected blessing and we are so grateful for the Siewert's support!



Our Fall Apparel webstore with Rage Grafix Signs & Screen Printing is now open for orders!!! Click on the link below to go to the website and see all the different colors and sizes available in short and long sleeved tees, sweatshirts, pullovers, hoodies, and several different types of new hats.

The **online store closes on Thursday November 14th at 11:59 pm**. Shipping is available for a fee or orders will be available for pickup at Safe Haven starting on November 26th.

<https://safehavenofiowacountyapparel.itemorder.com/.../home/>

SAFE HAVEN OF IOWA COUNTY

AUTUMN COOKIE WALK



November 23, 2024
9AM until sold out

**This year's Cookie Walk will again
be a drive-thru event.**

**Volunteers will be filling cookie boxes with
a variety of homemade cookies and we will
then be selling those pre-filled boxes
through the drive-thru.**

***Preorders can be made on
our website starting November 1st.***

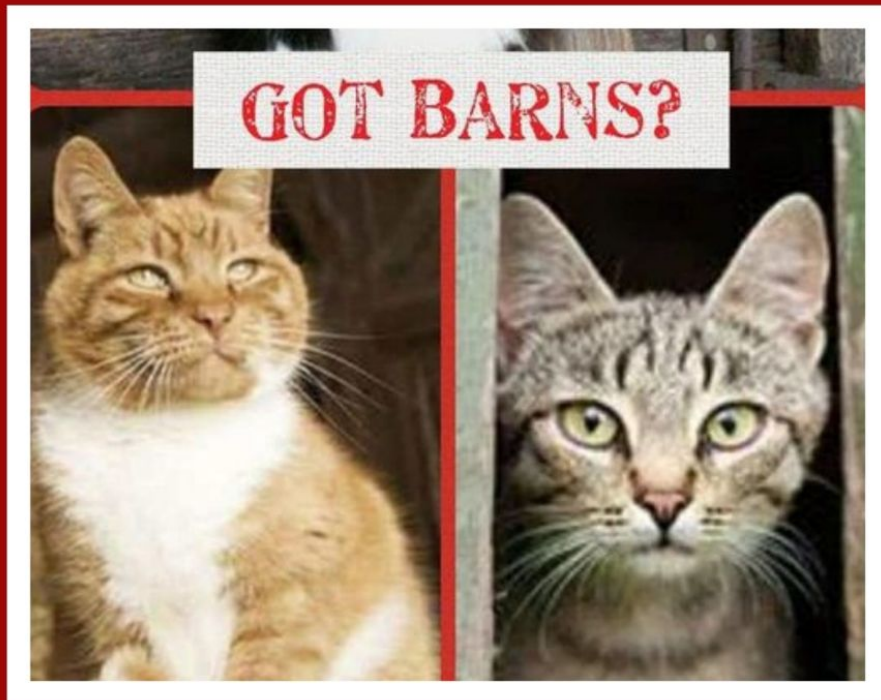
**Small Box
1 lb. of cookies—\$12
Large Box
3 lbs. of cookies—\$24**



**(319) 622-7387
www.wesavepets.com**



**2783 Hwy. 6 Trail
South Amana, IA 52334**



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

Your Helps Makes All The Difference



Thanks to every can and bottle donated to Safe Haven, many community cats have been spayed and neutered. You've helped lower future populations in numerous communities and the cats, who have been vaccinated, will be healthier as they are returned to their community or new barn home.



Congratulations to our quilt raffle winner, Virgie!

Foster kittens get an unexpected foster mom



Two itty bitty bottle babies were taken in by our wonderful fosters, Annie-lie and Sarah. They required around the clock feedings but receive some extra loving care from Bella, a cat receiving hospice care from fosters Annie-lie and Sarah. She is just a natural born mama.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! We have several open volunteer spots each week on our daily cat and dog shifts, and would love to welcome new people onto our volunteer team!

Our specific needs are currently:

Saturday PM - dog care & walking

Sunday PM - dog care & walking

Monday PM - cat care

Becoming a volunteer does not just benefit our own lives, but it benefits each animal at Safe Haven too. We have volunteers of all ages that help make a difference in the lives of our animals every day!

The tasks our volunteers help with keep us active and gives us the opportunity to create bonds with animals. Volunteering also gives you the chance to be surrounded by people that share a common interest (and passion for helping animals in need!) and the forming of new friendships.

NEEDED:

Scoopable litter

Taking Care of Business

Financial News:

July Expenses

Supplies	2,351.58
Payroll & Taxes	5,046.66
Specialized Vet	3,087.58
Community Spay/Neuter	3,167.63
Surgery Suite Supplies	1,180.59
Water	89.04
Electric	1,666.63
Internet/Phone	106.41
Garbage	45.00
Accounting Services	357.78
Fundraiser Expense	7,525.50
Capital Equipment	15,668.92
Website	95.00
Newsletter Expense	28.36
TOTAL	\$40,416.68

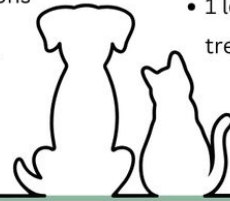
September Surgical Suite Update:

Cat surgical suite:

- 3 spays
- 10 neuters
- 12 microchips
- 34 doses of wormers
- 16 doses ear meds
- 44 distemper vaccines
- 16 rabies vaccines
- 17 doses of Revolution
- 10 nail trims
- 7 FIV/FelV tests
- 1 amputation
- 4 lab samples
- 1 serum collection & injection
- 2 Pen G injections
- 1 B12 injection
- 1 dose Capstar

Dog surgical suite

- 1 rabies vaccine
- 4 Distemper vaccines
- 5 Bordetella vaccines
- 2 heartworm/4DX test
- 2 microchip
- 1 anal gland expression
- 1 urinalysis
- 1 Parvo test
- 1 allergy injection
- 1 ultrasound
- 1 euthanasia
- 1 long acting ear treatment



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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