The Life-Saving Impact of Shelter Medicine
A Detailed Guide on How Shelter Medicine is Transforming Animal Welfare

PAWS Chicago Honors Innovative & Impassioned

DAVID DUFFIELD
with Visionary Award

What Makes Our Pets Itch?

Celebrating 5,000 Adoptions in 2012!

www.pawschicago.org
PAWS Chicago (Pets Are Worth Saving) is the city’s largest No Kill humane organization focused on alleviating Chicago’s tragic pet homelessness problem. Since PAWS Chicago’s founding, the number of homeless pets killed in the city has been reduced by 60 percent—from 42,561 pets killed in 1997 to less than 18,000 last year. PAWS Chicago envisions a No Kill Chicago, and that dream is in reach because of important and lifesaving work that is being done every single day.

A National Model

People from across the nation are visiting PAWS Chicago every month to see how they can bring No Kill success to their communities. In 15 years, PAWS Chicago has gone from a fully volunteer grassroots organization to a national model:

- The Lurie Spay/Neuter Clinic is one of the largest free spay/neuter clinics in the nation, focusing on assisting low-income families who could not otherwise afford the procedure. The GusMobile, the mobile counterpart of the Lurie Clinic, enables PAWS Chicago to provide accessible spay/neuter and vaccinations in the neighborhoods with the highest stray populations.
- The Pippen Fasseas Adoption Center is the first cageless, No Kill shelter of its kind in the Midwest. Located in highly visible Lincoln Park, this state-of-the-art Adoption Center is leading the way in cutting-edge programs and shelter design.
- PAWS Chicago has been recognized as one of the best-run charities in the nation. For the past nine years, PAWS Chicago has received the highest four-star rating from Charity Navigator, the nation’s largest independent charity evaluator, for efficient use of donors’ funds. Your contributions go directly to saving animals’ lives.

Without these caring, dedicated individuals, PAWS Chicago would not be possible. Adopt a Homeless Pet and Save a Life! Visit PAWS Chicago’s Adoption & Humane Center at 1997 N. Clybourn Avenue. New puppies, kittens, dogs and cats arrive daily at the Rescue & Recovery Center. If you do not find what you are looking for at PAWS Chicago, please visit another No Kill shelter.

Foster a Homeless Pet in Need

PAWS Chicago utilizes its foster network for sick or injured pets who need healing, or need a little time, before they are able to be adopted and for kittens and puppies who are not old enough and do not weigh enough to be spayed or neutered. By placing these special needs pets in foster homes, space is available in the Rescue & Recovery Center to save more homeless pets.

Spread the Word

Without the public’s involvement, homeless pets will continue to die in silence. Become an advocate and voice for homeless pets. Get involved in your community and learn about what is happening to homeless pets. Inform your family, friends and neighbors about the reality that homeless pets face and why it’s critical to spay/neuter pets and adopt from shelters.

Volunteer and Give of Yourself to the Animals

PAWS Chicago was founded as a volunteer organization and has stayed true to its roots with more than 5,000 volunteers who work in intake, socialization, animal care, dog walking, adoption counseling, follow-up calls, site managing, fundraising, fostering homeless pets in need, event support, humane education and community outreach and in every other capacity to help the animals.

Support No Kill Efforts

By donating to No Kill shelters, you will support life-saving work as private donations should go to saving, not killing, homeless dogs and cats.
Dear Friends,

This is a very special issue, featuring David Duffield, the first recipient of our PAWS Chicago Visionary Award. This Award is an expression of gratitude and recognition for people who have truly transformed the cause of homeless pets on a national scale. No family has done more for our voiceless companions than the Duffields. (See page 27.)

From bringing the No Kill vision to communities across the nation to establishing shelter medicine as a veterinary discipline, the Duffields and their family foundation, Maddie’s Fund, have consistently raised expectations of results in animal welfare, which can be measured in lives saved.

PAWS Chicago is proof that transparency works. When the public is aware of a problem, people become engaged to be a part of the solution. Since that time, the killing of homeless pets in Chicago has declined by 60%. But the battle for transparency is not yet won. As long as private shelters continue to use killing as a management tool they are reticent to disclose their actual shelter statistics. Dave and Maddie’s Fund continue to work toward a day when all animals will be counted.

This issue is dedicated to the field of shelter medicine (see page 12), one of the Four Pillars of No Kill. At PAWS Chicago, we are incorporating this new model of lifesaving veterinary practice into our operations to focus on the specific needs of each pet in our care.

With the help of all our supporters, volunteers and adopters, we are reaching a record-breaking year, on track to find homes for more than 5,200 homeless pets this year. When we started PAWS Chicago in the late 90’s we were adopting out fewer than 200 pets per year. We dreamed of having an Adoption Center where the community could come to share their love of cats and dogs. Hitting the 5,000 adoption milestone represents 5,000 animals who would have ended up a tragic statistic. It also makes PAWS Chicago one of the largest No Kill shelters in the country. But our work continues on in honor of the many thousands of pets in our community who still are unable to get the second chance they so deserve.

Thank you for all you do for the animals,

Paula Fasseas
Founder and Chair

FROM THE CHAIR

The Duffields and Maddie’s Fund have also brought national attention to shelter transparency. PAWS Chicago’s founding principal. When we were founded in 1997, traditional “open door” shelters were not only putting animals to sleep by the tens of thousands, but they were also putting the public to sleep by refusing to discuss the reality facing homeless pets in shelters. The common answer when asked why they wouldn’t communicate that homeless pets were dying: “People will only blame us, when it’s the public’s fault.” We founded PAWS Chicago as an advocacy organization to raise awareness that more than 42,000 pets were killed in Chicago alone that year.

PAWS Chicago is proof that transparency works. When the public is aware of a problem, people become engaged to be a part of the solution. Since that time, the killing of homeless pets in Chicago has declined by 60%. But the battle for transparency is not yet won. As long as private shelters continue to use killing as a management tool they are reticent to disclose their actual shelter statistics. Dave and Maddie’s Fund continue to work toward a day when all animals will be counted.

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Founder and Chair

ADOPT a Homeless Pet

These precious homeless pets are looking for new families to open their homes and hearts to them. To see all the available PAWS Chicago dogs and cats in need of new homes, please visit www.pawschicago.org
Nacho is a happy, free-spirited one-year-old Shepherd mix whose leg had been badly broken, likely after being hit by a car. The bone was in such poor shape that it couldn’t be repaired. PAWS Chicago veterinarians performed an amputation and relieved Nacho from excruciating pain. Nacho is currently recovering and barely notices the loss of his leg. Thanks to PAWS Chicago’s shelter medicine veterinarian team, Nacho has been given a new lease on life; he loves to play and will live a full, happy life.

In December, PAWS Chicago found a loving home for its 5,000th homeless pet in 2012. As this issue goes to print, PAWS Chicago projects to exceed 5,300 adoptions for the year, more than a 24% increase over the 4,268 adoptions in 2011.

“When we opened the Center, we always dreamed of one day reaching 5,000 adoptions in a single year,” said Paula Fasseas, Founder of PAWS Chicago. “Our wonderful volunteers, dedicated employees and the community’s growing support of homeless pets, means that we continue to save more lives. By continuing this growth, a No-Kill community is within our reach in the next five years.”

PAWS Chicago projects to exceed 5,300 adoptions for the year, more than a 24% increase over the 4,268 adoptions in 2011.

“We have opened the doors and fell in love-at-first-sight with Maddie (PAWS name Nali), a one-year-old Puggle from the city pound, marking the 20,000th adoption.

“Maddie has been a wonderful addition to our family,” said Elizabeth, Editor-in-Chief of Northwestern University Law Review. “After taking a couple of days to warm up to her new home, she has really come out of her shell. She is very sweet; always ready to give a kiss or a snuggle. Her favorite activities include playing with her toys and running at full speed with dogs at the dog park.”

The Bond by Wayne Pacelle

“Shelter Medicine

What Makes Our Pets Itch?

Vet Corner

Turning Human Resources into Innovative & Impassioned David Duffield

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Turning Human Resources into Innovative & Impassioned David Duffield

by Wayne Pacelle

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PAWS Chicago Celebrates 15th Anniversary of Angels with Tails Michigan Avenue

On May 6, PAWS Chicago celebrated the 15th anniversary of Angels with Tails Michigan Avenue, Chicago’s premier adoption event. More than 200 homeless cats, dogs, kittens and puppies from 20 local rescues and shelters were featured at 38 retail stores and boutiques along Michigan Avenue and Oak Street, each looking to meet their new forever families.

Wearing their golden “I Need a Home” scarves, 75 homeless pets were united with new families. More than 100 volunteers supported the event which raised awareness of animal homelessness and the importance of pet adoption.

PAWS Chicago dogs and cats took over 17 store fronts in Roscoe Village with an Angels with Tails adoption event on August 26. By the close of the event, PAWS Chicago found homes for 51 homeless pets.

Summer Kitten Adoption Challenge

During the warm summer months, kitten season in Chicago was in full swing. Sadly, our city pound became over capacity with homeless kittens and dozens of litters were at risk. Responding to this need, PAWS Chicago launched the six-week Summer Kitten Adoption Challenge with a goal to find homes for 200 more kittens than the same period in 2011.

By the end of the Challenge, 292 kittens were saved! Although we were just shy of meeting our goal, PAWS Chicago was able to take in more kittens from the city pound and save more lives than ever before during this timeframe.

On June 8, PAWS Chicago kicked-off its 36-Hour Spring Adopt-a-Thon where homeless cats, dogs, puppies and kittens began the search for their forever homes. The life-saving event, which continued until 11:00 p.m. on June 9, gave these wonderful pets a second chance at life. In total, PAWS Chicago found loving homes for 141 pets.

First Night Free!
Overnight Suite for Your Pet and Airport Parking for You!  

Visit www.pawschicago.org for event registration

- December 7 & 8
  - 11 a.m.
  - 36-Hour Holiday Adopt-A-Thon
  - PAWS Chicago Adoption Center

- February 22
  - 7 p.m.
  - Animal Magnetism
  - Galleria Marchetti

- Spring 2013
  - 36-Hour Spring Adopt-A-Thon
  - PAWS Chicago Adoption Center

- June 2013
  - Run for Their Lives
  - 8K Run/4K Walk

- July 18
  - 6 p.m.
  - Beach Party
  - Castaways

- August 25
  - 6 a.m.
  - Start Chicago Triathlon
  - Downtown Lakeshore

- October 13
  - 7:30 a.m.
  - Start Bank of America Chicago Marathon
  - Grant Park

- November 15
  - 6 p.m.
  - Fur Ball

First Night Free!

Overnight Suite for Your Pet and Airport Parking for You!

- New Clients Only.
- Valid for one night in a Deluxe Dog Suite or Deluxe Cat Bungalow and one night of outdoor parking in conjunction with overnight reservation.
- Certain blackout dates and restrictions apply. See website for details.
- Based on availability.
- Please mention this ad when making your reservation.
- May not be combined with any coupons, special offers, or discounts.

Paradise4Paws.com

O’Hare Location
10516 United Parkway
Schiller Park, IL 60176

Midway Location
5262 S Kolmar Avenue
Chicago, IL 60632

847678-1200

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Around PAWS Chicago

**GusMobile Second Season**

PAWS Chicago recently wrapped up a very successful second season of the GusMobile Spay/Neuter van – the mobile counterpart to PAWS Chicago’s Lurie Spay/Neuter Clinic. This year, more than 600 pets were spayed and neutered at the GusMobile alone.

Every Sunday from April through November, the GusMobile opened its doors at the PETCO at 119th and Marshfield in the West Pullman neighborhood and provided free and low-cost spay/neuter services and vaccinations to cats and dogs whose owners live in the areas with the highest stray populations in Chicago. Eighty seven percent of the surgeries were performed at no charge for pet owners on public assistance, decreasing the number of homeless and unwanted pets.

Love, Evelyn & Stone

PAWS Chicago offered us an affordable way to have Stone neutered. Our vet would have charged us $200 so had it not been for PAWS, we would not have been able to get this surgery for our dog.

Mae & Princess

Getting Princess Sophie spayed is important so that we do not have any more unwanted puppies. The GusMobile offered a much more affordable option than anywhere else.

Alana & Chico

I brought in my 11-month-old pup, Chico, for his neuter surgery so that he would live longer and to reduce aggression before it started. I also chose PAWS because they offered a more affordable option for spay/neuter and because of its positive reputation in Chicago.

Nedina & Bella

We live in an area with a lot of dogs and Bella has already had one litter of puppies that we had to find homes for. I’m here to prevent her from having more litters and PAWS made it affordable for me to do so. I tell everyone I know to go to the GusMobile for their pets!

**Howl-O-Ween at the Park Hyatt**

On October 28, PAWS Chicago hosted Howl-o-Ween at the Park Hyatt, a spooky, fun-filled costume party for people and pets. Guests enjoyed the highlight of the event – the costume contest with celebrity judges US99 DJ Lisa Dent, ABC’s Windy City Live Contributor Ji Suk Yi, CBS 2 Reporter Suzanne LeMignot and Radio Disney DJ Angela Pargas. Detectable desserts were provided by Pastry Chef Meg Galus, cocktails by NoMI Lounge and Pawtastic bites by Executive Chef Ryan LaRoche.

**Comptroller’s Critters**

On June 28, the Comptroller’s Critters program joined forces with PAWS Chicago to host an Adopt-a-Pet event at the Captain Morgan Club at Wrigley Field. Illinois Comptroller Judy Baar Topinka and 44th Ward Alderman, Tom Tunney kicked off the event to save the lives of homeless pets and raise awareness of the importance pet adoption, finding homes for seven wonderful dogs.

**Love, Evelyn & Stone**

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**Comptroller’s Critters**

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**YOUR DOG DESERVES THE BEST DRY DOG FOOD**

**SOLID GOLD SUNDANCER WITH CURCUMIN (TUMERIC)**

- Protein-chicken and fish
- Oriental, Arctic and dogs from England, Scotland, and Ireland were fed fish and sea vegetation (like our Sea Meal) for hundreds of years.
- This means, all retrievers, spaniels and terriers must have a fish-based diet to support the DNA of the body.
- It also supports the thyroid gland which controls allergies, such as sneezing at the tail or licking feet.
- Decreases tear-staining and ear infections.
- SunDancer contains curcumin, (often referred to as Indian Solid Gold)
- Curcumin is from the curcumin plant, is a widely used as an anti-oxidant.
- No grains, no glutens. Quinoa is not a true grain. It is related to beets and spinach.

Curcumin is an anti-oxidant for a variety of problems-
Cancer, heart disease, asthma, arthritis, IBD, diarrhea, leukemia, liver/kidney, obesity, diabetes, epilepsy, cataracts, Crohn’s disease.

**The Cute Story**

A five year old was explaining the Bethlehem Christmas Story. Governor Herod (he was never a king) forced the Holy Family to flee. All FOUR of them left. Four, you might ask? Remember, this is the logic of a five year old. Yes, Jesus, Mary, Joseph and the pilot who flew the plane for the Holy Family on their flight to Egypt. Guess she confused pilot with Pontius Pilate. Sounds reasonable to me!

We will soon have a similar dry cat food. The cats keep stealing the SunDancer from the dog’s bowl. Surprisingly, ferrets like the SunDancer also.

**Solid Gold Holistic Animal Nutrition Center**

1331 N. Cuyamaca, El Cajon, CA 92020

Ask your local pet store for a free catalogue. If they don’t have a SunDancer catalogue, call us at (619)258-7356. M-F, 10am to 5pm Pacific time. Or e-mail us at sarah@solidgoldholistic.com. You can also visit our website at www.solidgoldholistic.com.

Curcumin is an anti-oxidant for a variety of problems—
Cancer, heart disease, asthma, arthritis, IBD, diarrhea, leukemia, liver/kidney, obesity, diabetes, epilepsy, cataracts, Crohn’s disease.

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Large rooms filled with small, sterile cages, echoing cries and whimpers and loud barking. People with clipboards walking by, keeping lists of who will live to see another day and whose life will be extinguished. There is method to the madness. A single sneeze, a stuffed nose, a throaty cough, teary eyes, loose stool: all calculated offenses for a death sentence. But mere proximity counts, too. The offending cat or dog will be killed, and so will the cats or dogs in cages immediately surrounding the offender. A single incident of more virulent diseases warrants a culling of the entire population. Hundreds of dead, furry bodies pile in refrigerators, awaiting transport to a large incinerator – in Chicago, it’s located on Goose Island. Ash in the air is a mixture of industry and the remains of thousands of dead cats and dogs.

This is herd management. It’s common practice at large open-door humane societies. It doesn’t have to be this way.

PAWS Chicago’s Rescue & Recovery Center is the first stop for all PAWS dogs and cats.

Large suites with soft bedding, toys, discreet airflow and piped in classical music help homeless pets relax and prevent the spread of disease. An expert shelter medicine veterinary team examines each pet utilizing a case management approach, diagnosing and establishing a protocol based on the needs of each individual animal. Puppies and kittens enjoy the love and socialization of foster homes until they are able to receive their second vaccination. So do pets with injuries or illnesses that will require a longer recovery time.

The old and out-dated model of running private shelters as a revolving door of unlimited intake and frequent death is being supplanted by the No Kill movement and the burgeoning field of shelter medicine. While No Kill shelters have always been dedicated to the life of each individual pet in their care, shelter veterinary protocols historically mimicked private veterinary practices. But the David Duffield family’s foundation Maddie’s Fund had a vision for a new approach. (Read more about the Duffield family, recipient of the first PAWS Chicago Visionary Award, on page 26.) Animals living in shelters are very stressed and exposed to a drastically different environment than pets living in a home; treatment needs to be customized to handle these diverging medical needs. Additionally, veterinary medicine staff need to be trained for these specific shelter circumstances to optimize the health and management of a large population of animals and ensure the best care for each individual pet.

In 2001, Maddie’s Fund established the nation’s first comprehensive shelter medicine program at UC Davis, resulting in the first shelter medicine residency program and the nation’s first shelter medicine website. To date, Maddie’s Fund has funded grants at nine colleges of veterinary medicine, including Purdue University, University of Florida and Cornell University. Just this year shelter medicine has been accepted as a recognized specialty by the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners and the guidelines for board certification are currently being developed.

In 2008, Purdue University School of Veterinary Medicine collaborated with PAWS Chicago and received a Maddie’s Shelter Medicine grant. Maddie’s Fund also supports PAWS Chicago’s Shelter Medicine program with equipment and veterinary staffing expenses. As a result, PAWS Chicago became one of the first animal welfare organizations in the Midwest to integrate shelter medicine into its operations and is a leading shelter in innovative best practices. Additionally, leading scientific studies on shelter medicine are being performed by Purdue at PAWS Chicago today. This research will transform shelter medicine of tomorrow.
Groundbreaking Work for the Future of Shelter Medicine

By Julie Mazzola

Maddie’s Fund, Purdue University College of Veterinary Medicine and PAWS Chicago are working together to develop the next generation of shelter veterinarians and shelter medicine protocols.

I. Training Veterinary Leaders

The new field of shelter medicine has established itself as a career path. In fact, shelter medicine has now been recognized as a specialty by the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners.

Hands-on shelter learning opportunities for veterinary students are an essential component of training future leaders. As shelter medicine continues to gain esteem, shelter medicine specialists will be in greater demand across the country.

With a grant from Maddie’s Fund in 2008, Purdue University and PAWS Chicago have joined forces to educate and train veterinary professionals and leaders of the future in shelter medicine, animal behavior, population health and companion animal welfare. Veterinary students from Purdue are given an opportunity to gain hands-on clinical experience at PAWS Chicago’s Rescue & Recovery Center and Lurie Spay/Neuter Clinic. This Maddie’s Shelter Medicine Program is designed to give veterinary and Certified Veterinary Technician students exposure to the many facets of working in a high-volume spay/neuter clinic and a No Kill shelter environment so that more lives can be saved. This invaluable experience is laying the groundwork so that proactive life-saving medical practices in shelter medicine can be integrated into a growing number of sheltering programs across the country. "PAWS Chicago has enabled the Purdue Maddie’s Shelter Medicine Program to educate and train future leaders in the field of shelter medicine in an adoption-guarantee environment," said Purdue Veterinary Professor and Maddie’s Shelter Medicine Program Director, Dr. Annette Litster.

Shelter Medicine Fellowships for Veterinarians

This Maddie’s Post-DVM Fellowship in Shelter Medicine is a year-long opportunity for veterinarians that place fellowship training with the team of shelter veterinarians in the state-of-the-art facilities at PAWS Chicago. This advanced clinical training in shelter medicine focuses on areas of population medicine, infectious disease, animal welfare, preventative medicine, high-volume spay/neuter and animal behavior. The Maddie’s Post-DVM Fellow will also pursue an important issue related to shelter medicine, which will be published in a national peer-reviewed veterinary journal.

Continued on page 16

Dr. Jamieson Nichols, DVM
PAWS Chicago Shelter Medicine Relief Veterinarian

2009 Maddie’s Post-DVM Fellowship in Shelter Medicine through Purdue University at PAWS Chicago

During her fellowship, Dr. Nichols was involved with the Purdue FIV Study to produce evidence regarding the clinical effects of FIV infection, and a study that looked at vaccination response times in shelter animals.

Learning to look at the shelter as its own patient is the area I have learned the most about at PAWS Chicago. In veterinary school, particularly in small animal medicine, you focus on the individual patient exclusively whereas in a shelter setting there is the individual patient but also the entire shelter population that has to be viewed as one patient as well. In keeping with that mindset, having to adopt a population management mentality and awareness while keeping an individual patient focus was an initial challenge.

A shelter medicine presence is important for the obvious reason that a healthy shelter population increases the rate of movement of cats and dogs through the system (intake, preventive care, adoption) and on to their forever home which in turn makes room available for other animals to be taken into the system. But overall, shelter medicine helps to serve as another means by which we can improve and enrich the lives of animals within the sheltering system today and help the dedicated people involved in the No Kill movement create and implement new ideas and solutions to end the homeless pet problem that we face.”

Dr. Barbara Kompare, DVM
PAWS Chicago Shelter Medicine Veterinarian

2010 Maddie’s Post-DVM Fellowship in Shelter Medicine through Purdue University at PAWS Chicago

Dr. Kompare was instrumental in the study that focused on comparing the efficacy of certain antibiotics in the treatment of upper respiratory infections in shelter cats. I went into shelter medicine to help those who do not have a voice and who cannot help themselves. Shelter medicine is designed to protect the health and welfare of shelter pets. By focusing on the challenges that directly relate to animal health such as housing, sanitation, population management, enrichment, and others, we can work toward a greater impact on the physical and mental health of our homeless pets. Shelter medicine has become the practice of monitoring both the health and welfare of the population as well as the individual. It is simply not one or the other.”

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Shelter Medicine Externships

Fourth year veterinary students from Purdue University School of Veterinary Medicine are able to study a 1-6 week clinical rotation in shelter medicine at PAWS Chicago or the Humane Society of Indianapolis. Veterinary technology students are also given externship opportunities. During clinical rotation, students participate in the full spectrum of shelter medicine services, from intake to adoption. Students work alongside experienced shelter veterinarians to learn about population medicine, infectious disease care and control, preventative medicine, spay/neuter anesthesia and surgery, animal welfare, behavior and environmental enrichment and client interaction and education.

Dear PAWS Chicago,

As a former veterinary student who participated in an externship experience at PAWS Chicago, I would like to share a few things about how that experience impacted me then and now. I was raised in Hendricks County, Indiana, and since the age of 16, took an interest in how our local animal control and shelter was run. Back then, I thought the main way I could help was to participate in functions that raised money for the shelter. I was exposed a little bit to the politics of everything at that time, but I didn’t truly know what it all meant and assumed everyone was working in similar ways toward the same end goal.

Through undergraduate and veterinary school, I learned more about spay/neuter programs across the country and about pet overpopulation. This was still just skimming the surface of what rescue and shelter organization really is all about, though. It wasn’t until Purdue/PAWS Chicago/Maddie’s Fund provided me with the opportunity to immerse myself in a shelter for a few weeks that I really learned how complicated everything can be. I learned it isn’t just veterinarians and animal scientists out there trying to solve this huge problem; in fact, it’s your average animal lover and dedicated social activist who is driving change in animal welfare in this country. I learned that as a veterinarian, I need to be involved in this process in order to help prevent the unnecessary spread of disease and subsequent euthanasia. I learned that operating a good shelter is like operating a business, and that a mixture of dedicated volunteers and paid staff are necessary to run a successful shelter system. And I learned that if you have multiple paths leading to a common goal, and that shelter organizations need to work together in order to make the biggest and most positive change.

I am now two years out of veterinary school. For a year and a half, I kept my eyes open for opportunities to make my own change in Hendricks County (I went back home to work in private practice). The political climate of Hendricks County’s animal welfare group has been stifling, but finally a group came along with a message of working together in order to save the most lives. I immediately started supporting this group, Misty Eyes Animal Shelter and Learning Center. I was soon asked to be on the board of directors, serving as the Veterinary Medical Director. It is now part of my responsibility to help this organization develop protocols and plans for Hendricks County’s first No Kill shelter.

None of this would have been possible without my experience at PAWS during my senior year of veterinary school. I would not have known what kind of group I wanted to be part of. I wouldn’t have the wealth of information that has been provided to me. So much of that experience has proven to be invaluable to me, and I hope that this ultimately translates to saving lives in Hendricks County, to making Hendricks County a No Kill county, and to making an impact on greater Indianapolis.

Thank you, thank you, thank you! Matt Cantrell

Matt Cantrell

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II. Humane Shelter Medicine Research

With a grant from the Maddie’s Fund Shelter Medicine Program, Purdue University is conducting cutting edge studies at PAWS Chicago, aimed to improve the quality of care for pets living in shelters. This humane research and application of evidence-based methods of veterinary health care and preventative medicine is transforming the way shelters medically care for their pets. “Information from the practical shelter medicine studies conducted at PAWS has moved the science of shelter medicine forward so that shelters not only within the USA and beyond can constantly improve the health and welfare of the shelter pets in their care,” said Dr. Litster.

Published Studies

1) This two-part study on parvovirus and distemper in dogs: i) investigated diagnostic accuracy of a test’s ability to segregate low-risk from high-risk in a population; and ii) determined existing antibody and assessed protective immunity following vaccination. Published 2012.

Medical description Part I – Accuracy of a point-of-care ELISA test kit for predicting presence of protective canine parvovirus and canine distemper virus antibody concentrations in dogs. This study investigated the diagnostic accuracy of the Synbiotic TiterChek CDV/CPV, an in-clinic ELISA test kit used to measure serum antibody titers against CPV and CDV in dogs.

Impact to Shelter Medicine Part I – The results of this study have transformed shelter medicine by validating that the Synbiotic Test works in a shelter environment. This enables PAWS Chicago to save more lives by clearing puppies for adoption faster and improving treatment protocol when disease is detected by determining who is at the highest risk.

Medical description Part II – Prevalence of positive antibody test results for canine parvovirus (CPV) and canine distemper virus (CDV) and response to modified live vaccination against CPV and CDV in dogs entering animal shelters. This study determined antibody titers against canine parvovirus and canine distemper virus in dogs entering shelters in Chicago and Indianapolis and response to modified live vaccinations over the following two weeks.

Impact to Shelter Medicine Part II – The study showed that older and sterilized dogs are more likely to have protection and the sooner that you can vaccinate, the sooner you start building protective titers (or immunity to disease). 75% of the dogs had titers for parvo at intake, 85% after 6-8 days from 1st vaccination, 100% after 13-15 days from the 2nd vaccination. 36% of the dogs had titers for distemper at intake, 60% after 6-8 days from the 1st vaccination, 98% after 13-15 days from the 2nd vaccination. The average age of the dogs in the study were 1 year.

2) Identify which puppies and kittens were most likely to be delayed by medical illness after shelter intake and investigate how management practices can reduce these delays. Published 2011.

Medical description – Risk factors for delays between intake and veterinary approval for adoption on medical grounds in shelter puppies and kittens.

Impact to the Shelter Medicine – This study showed that if puppies and kittens are placed on antibiotics within 24 hours of the first signs of upper respiratory infection, they will recover seven to 10 days sooner than if you delay treatment until the signs worsen. This study verified that in the event of a parvo outbreak, PAWS Chicago can test the population to see who is at risk. In April 2012, parvo struck PAWS Chicago and 43 puppies were exposed. By using the Synbiotic Test, PAWS veterinarians determined who was our high risk and needed intensive medical treatment and who was low risk. Sixteen of the puppies had protection and went into foster homes, freeing up medical team time to focus on the puppies who most needed care. All the puppies survived and are living in loving homes today.

Puppies are Cleared for Adoption Faster

PAWS Chicago can now “fast track” puppies over the age of five months by using the Synbiotic Test. If a puppy has protective titers to parvo and distemper, they can be spayed or neutered and immediately transferred to the Adoption Center. Puppies without protective titers go into a foster home for two weeks to ensure they are protected from disease before being cleared for adoption and being exposed to other dogs.

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Determine Who is At Risk in a Parvo Outbreak

Parvovirus is a deadly puppy disease that many shelters will immediately euthanize for to avoid it spreading through the population. PAWS Chicago has a 96% survival rate because of treatment protocols and immediate response.

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In 2013, PAWS Chicago
Shelter Medicine
Continued from page 19
infected cats for an average accumulated time of 11.98 years. despite the fact that each FIV-negative cat was exposed to FIV to 8 years. During this period, FIV transmission did not occur, completely unrestricted access to one another over a period of up cats. This study investigated serial FIV test results in 45 FIV-occur in long-term cohabiting FIV-positive and FIV-negative Feline immunodeficiency virus (FIV) transmission did not completed study
Manuscript in process from studies and future veterinary goals. apply these learnings to their own experiences first-hand the life-saving Dr. Annette Litster, and Purdue Fellow Dr. Barbara Kompare. Veteran’s Executive Director Rochelle Michalek, Purdue Veterinary Medicine. The students had the opportunity to learn what it takes to be a veterinarian or veterinary technician in a No Kill shelter environment directly from PAWS Chicago’s Executive Director. Purdue University. Nearly 30 future veterinarians, with a focus university around the country welcomed veterinary students from Purdue University to visit and learn about PAWS Chicago’s No Kill model. The students had the opportunity to learn what it takes to be a veterinarian or veterinary technician in a No Kill shelter environment directly from PAWS Chicago’s Executive Director Rochelle Michalek. Purdue Veterinary Professor and Maddie’s Shelter Medicine Program Director Dr. Annette Litster, and Purdue Fellow Dr. Barbara Kompare who shared life-saving insight, experiences and examples that the students can use as they map out their career paths in veterinary medicine. Purdue Boiler Vet Camp On June 20, more than 40 high school seniors – and aspiring veterinarians – from across Illinois and Indiana visited PAWS Chicago’s Adoption Center as a part of Purdue’s Boiler Vet Camp to learn first-hand about the emerging field of shelter medicine. In addition to hosting annual shelter medicine symposiums, Vet Camp and SAVMA Conference came to PAWS Chicago during the summer months.

Purdue Boiler Vet Camp

SAVMA Conference

On March 16, PAWS Chicago welcomed veterinary students from universities around the country as a part of the SAVMA (Student Association of Veterinary Medical Association) National Conference, hosted by Purdue University. Nearly 30 future veterinarians, with a focus on shelter medicine, toured PAWS Chicago’s Rescue & Recovery Center, Lurie Spay/Neuter Clinic and No Kill Adoption & Humane Center to experience first-hand the life-saving work being accomplished at PAWS Chicago and to understand how to apply these learnings to their own studies and future veterinary goals.

In 2013, PAWS Chicago will formally launch No Kill Academy. If you are interested in future programs, seminars and learning opportunities, email NOKA@pawschicago.org.

Inspiring the Future Generation of Veterinary Medicine

PAWS Chicago regularly welcomes people and organizations from across the nation, and around the world, to visit and learn about PAWS Chicago’s No Kill model. PAWS works with Purdue University to host existing and aspiring veterinarians to learn more about the field of shelter medicine. In addition to hosting annual shelter medicine symposiums, Vet Camp and SAVMA Conference came to PAWS Chicago during the summer months.

Purdue Boiler Vet Camp

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Studies In Progress

Feline immunodeficiency virus (FIV) transmission did not occur in long-term cohabiting FIV-positive and FIV-negative cats. This study investigated serial FIV test results in 45 FIV-negative and 5 FIV-positive cohabiting spayed/neutered cats with completely unrestricted access to one another over a period of up to 8 years. During this period, FIV transmission did not occur, despite the fact that each FIV-negative cat was exposed to FIV-infected cats for an average accumulated time of 11.98 years.

1) Use of Ponazuril as a first line treatment for coccidiosis in a shelter environment. Many shelter veterinarians and private practitioners are currently using ponazuril (Marquis paste) to treat coccidiosis, an intestinal infection, with very favorable results, but there is no uniform dose schedule. This randomized blinded controlled study compares the results of ponazuril treatment at three different dose rates in dogs and cats with coccidiosis, to determine the most cost-effective and efficacious dose.

2) Clinical trial to determine the efficacy of famciclovir as part of intake protocol for shelter cats. Previous studies conducted at PAWS have confirmed that approximately 90% of cats entering PAWS Chicago are infected with feline herpesvirus (FHV). Oral famciclovir has been used successfully to treat shelter cats with FHV, but an effective clinical dose rate has not yet been established. This randomized, blinded, placebo-controlled clinical trial will determine if famciclovir can reduce clinical signs of upper respiratory tract infection if used as part of the shelter intake protocol.

3) The Purdue FIV Study. This prospective study is the first to produce evidence regarding the clinical effects of FIV infection by following 89 naturally-infected cats and age, sex, and location-matched FIV-negative control cats over a five year period. The study currently is in Year Three and is yielding a diverse range of important and practically-relevant findings.

ST. LOUIS
FIV+

St. Louis was found lying in the street after being hit by a car near the PAWS Chicago Rescue & Recovery Center. Due to medical treatments, ST. LOUIS was diagnosed him as FIV+, which would have been a death sentence at a traditional shelter. After treatment, he was adopted into a loving home.

In a traditional shelter, panleukopenia exposure results in death. This disease is highly contagious and deadly. In a traditional shelter, panleukopenia exposure results in death. This disease is highly contagious and deadly. 2) Epidemiology of feline panleukopenia virus (FPV) in an animal shelter. In a traditional shelter, panleukopenia exposure results in death. This disease is highly contagious and deadly. Many shelter veterinarians and private practitioners are currently using ponazuril (Marquis paste) to treat coccidiosis, an intestinal infection, with very favorable results, but there is no uniform dose schedule. This randomized blinded controlled study compares the results of ponazuril treatment at three different dose rates in dogs and cats with coccidiosis, to determine the most cost-effective and efficacious dose.

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PAWS Chicago integrates shelter medicine into animal care at its Rescue & Recovery Center – the first stop for homeless animals when they come from the city pound or are given up by their owners. The PAWS veterinary team provides each animal with all medical care needed, regardless of the pet’s health condition. While many pets are healthy and are able to be “fast tracked” (spayed or neutered and transferred to the Adoption Center within three days), there are many others who have major, yet treatable, illnesses or injuries and need extensive care for before they can be cleared for adoption. PAWS Chicago’s shelter medicine and foster program provides for wellness and preventative care, supportive and critical care, internal medicine, diagnostic testing, dentistry, and surgery.

In traditional sheltering, euthanasia has long been the remedy to disease management. In the No Kill model, shelter medicine has become the foundation to saving lives on a massive scale. PAWS Chicago has consistently achieved better than a 96% save rate throughout its history. In PAWS’ formative years with only a few hundred adoptions each year, external veterinary clinics were utilized for illness at a very high medical costs per animal. With PAWS Chicago’s growth after opening the Adoption Center in 2007, that outsourced model would result in a severe eye infection, causing it to swell to three times its normal size. Aye’s life was in danger and PAWS Chicago veterinarians had to rush him into a high-risk emergency surgery.

Due to Aye’s small size, weight (only 11.5 ounces) and age, the veterinarians had to modify their anesthesia equipment, including borrowing a tube specially designed for small birds from a specialty clinic, and using a surgical glove to create a small opening for the mask. The surgery also had to be performed in a minimal amount of time so that he could survive the surgery. Aye was touch and go throughout the surgery, but pulled through thanks to exceptional work of the shelter medicine veterinarians. Aye fully recovered and today, is loving life in his new home where he is greatly loved.

When spot leaves a spot, call us!

PAWS Chicago from the city pound after being given up by her owner who could no longer care for her severe skin infection, demodex mange, which had spread all over her body. PAWS shelter medicine veterinarians provided this sweet girl with medication and care to improve her condition and gave her time to regain her health in a foster home as mange can take several months to heal. Diamond is on the road to recovery and will soon be available for adoption.

Aye, a beautiful six-week-old kitten, was transferred to PAWS Chicago from Animal Care & Control with his five littermates. Aye was suffering from an upper respiratory infection that resulted in a severe eye infection, causing it to swell to three times its normal size. Aye’s life was in danger and PAWS Chicago veterinarians had to rush him into a high-risk emergency surgery.

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Two-year-old Pit Bull mix, Diamond, came to PAWS Chicago from the city pound after being given up by her owner who could no longer care for her severe skin infection, demodex mange, which had spread all over her body. PAWS shelter medicine veterinarians provided this sweet girl with medication and care to improve her condition and gave her time to regain her health in a foster home as mange can take several months to heal. Diamond is on the road to recovery and will soon be available for adoption.

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have limited the number of animals that could be taken in, healed and adopted to new families.

The creation of an internal shelter medicine program that provides medical treatment and care for each individual animal while establishing medical protocols that optimize the treatment of highly contagious and deadly diseases has been essential to ensuring a continuous flow of treated, healthy animals to the Adoption Center. With growing demand for PAWS Chicago animals, more than 5,000 animals will flow through PAWS Chicago’s shelter medicine program in 2012, and that number is expected to grow each year.

But shelter medicine has not only helped get more animals treated and healthy for adoption quicker – it has shortened the treatment cycle and improved medical care. Shelter diseases are not always common in private veterinary clinics, so there is improved care for the animals that come through PAWS Chicago today. Not only does PAWS have the capability to treat immediately upon detection, but there are better results for saving animals with virulent disease. Partnering with Purdue University and Maddie’s Fund, PAWS Chicago has been able to develop best practices in medical treatment and care that maintains the health of the shelter population and is able to turn healthy animals through the system to maximize adoptions. “We use the information and research that is available, along with the resources from our partnership with Purdue, and put it into practice at the shelter level so that we are able to look for the best options for each pet and continue to evolve our treatment protocols for those who are sick or injured,” said PAWS Chicago Executive Director Rochelle Michalek.

Julie Mazzola is Senior Editor of PAWS Chicago magazine. She received a graduate certificate in Animal Studies. In her free time, she serves the lavish demands of her beloved cat, Clover.
I’ve been fond of dogs as far back as I can remember,” Duffield recalls, “but my love for them grew when Maddie came into my life.” The Duffields met and fell in love-at-first-sight with Maddie when she was only ten days old. Duffield reminisces about that moment, “She melted our hearts from the first second we saw her with her sweet ways, her stubbornness, her independence, her intelligence, her spirit and her devotion.”

Maddie fit right into her new home, doing her part to help the family. “Our early years with Maddie were a time of great stress as we struggled to start a new human resources software company, PeopleSoft,” Duffield said. “Always there offering unconditional love and devotion, Maddie helped us get through the hard times. I’ve always said that Maddie was the lighthouse during this stormy period.”

After a particularly good day during the formation of the company, Duffield picked up Maddie and made a pledge to her: “If we ever make some money, I promise I will give it back to you and your kind so others can be as happy as we are today.” PeopleSoft went on to achieve every start-up’s dream, becoming a household name in the business community, and Duffield made good on his promise. He and his wife Cheryl founded the Duffield Family Foundation in 1994. “The tremendous success of PeopleSoft in the 1980s allowed us to think about charitable giving in a significant way,” Duffield said. “Involvements with local animal welfare organizations sparked our interest in forming a foundation that focused on companion animals.” In January of 1999, the Board restructured the Family Foundation and adopted the name Maddie’s Fund.

To date, Duffield has given more than $300 million to his family’s foundation in loving memory of Maddie.

Duffield’s business philosophy threads throughout his philanthropic endeavors. “In business, I firmly believe that you treat everyone you come into contact with – customers, employees, vendors, students, competitors, and so forth – with the same The PAWS Chicago Visionary Award recognizes exemplary work on behalf of homeless pets. Recipients have transformed animal welfare on a national scale, forging forward the mission of the No Kill movement to save the lives of all homeless cats and dogs.

PAWS Chicago offers gratitude for the unparalleled work of the David Duffield Family, who has dedicated its philanthropy to building a No Kill America.

You shine light in their darkest hours.
You bring consciousness to silent suffering.
You have answered a voiceless plea for help, saving countless lives.
You inspire others to follow this path.

You are protector. You are hero.
You are visionary.

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high regard,” he said. “You never know when someone might pass a kind word along to another who might be influential to your business. It’s a simple ‘what goes around comes around’ philosophy, and our pets share this with us unconditionally every day. These are the underpinnings of the Maddie’s Fund cause and why we want to help find every healthy and treatable dog and cat a loving home.”

Duffield maintains a focus on the mission of saving lives while incorporating lessons learned in managing and building companies when assessing how best to support the animal welfare community. “Maddie’s Fund recognizes the zeal and passion that animal shelters and rescue organizations have for lifesaving,” he said. “We want to match this level of commitment with the necessary business skills to make animal welfare organizations more efficient and successful in reaching their lifesaving goals.”

Maddie’s Fund’s own goals are no small feat, with a mission to revolutionize the status and well-being of companion animals and create a No Kill nation where all healthy and treatable shelter dogs and cats are guaranteed a loving home. To this end, Maddie’s has established several lines of grant-giving, including Community Collaboration Grants, Maddie’s Matchmaker Adoption, initiatives in Transparency and promoting adoption and the all-important lifesaving of shelter medicine.

“Our greatest success has been as a primary spokesperson and as the biggest investor in achieving a No Kill nation,” Duffield said. “Maddie’s Fund was the first to articulate the No Kill Nation goal. People believed that saving all of our healthy and treatable shelter pets was impossible. Now, it’s almost universally accepted, it’s a movement, and it’s happening in communities all across the country.”

BUILDING NO KILL COMMUNITIES

The Duffield family is very hands-on with their foundation. They have spent many a weekend the last two years visiting many of the participating locations in the Maddie’s Matchmaker Adoption, which happens each June with an emphasis on adoption out older and hard-to-place pets. “The joy we saw in the animals, as well as the volunteers and the adopters, is the reason we created Maddie’s Fund,” said Duffield. “The hard to place adoptions are particularly moving, like Heidi, a 17-year old blind and deaf dog who had been given up on by previous owners and was adopted by a hospice nurse who totally fell in love with her.”

Community collaboration grants are bestowed to animal welfare organizations that come together to develop successful models of lifesaving. “We’ve guided the animal welfare movement toward community problem solving,” Duffield said. “This has gained a great deal of traction nationwide.” He mentions a recent $1.3 million Lifesaving Award to a four-member alliance in Washoe County, Nevada, for creating a No Kill community for the last two years, saving all of their healthy and treatable shelter pets.

With community collaborations and the annual Adoptathon, Maddie’s has saved 687,400 animals lives through adoption and provided 546,499 spay/neuter surgeries.

TRANSFORMING THE SHELTERING COMMUNITY

Maddie’s has led a national effort to promote accountability and transparency in animal shelter industry. In so many communities, shelters have kept the massive killing of homeless pets a secret, hidden from the general public. Without full transparency, people are kept in the dark about the true activities in the shelters. They are supporting or surrendering their animals to. “In addition to requiring our own community collaborative funded projects to collect and report shelter data, we have offered to pay other communities to collect and report data to promote transparency and accountability on a far broader scale,” Duffield said. “In a continuation of our effort, several national animal welfare organizations are now working on a national shelter database for the entire industry.” (Readers can view the first searchable shelter database of shelter and community statistics at www.maddiesfund.org.)

The next step is building Maddie’s Center in the San Francisco Bay Area. The future foundation headquarters will also be home to a facility for animal care and Maddie’s Institute, a teaching facility. “We don’t call our facility a shelter because it will be an entirely new and groundbreaking concept in animal care looking more like a home or resort than a traditional shelter,” Duffield said. Expected to be completed in 2014, Maddie’s Center will serve as a testing ground for tackling the most challenging issues facing the animal welfare community.

“We anticipate that our pet admissions will be difficult to place referrals, dogs and cats primarily from animal control shelters,” said Duffield. The initial service will be focused on Alameda and Contra Costa Counties, then spread to other Bay Area communities and ultimately nationwide. But it will also be a national resource with Maddie’s Institute, providing a university-type setting to train the animal welfare community and general public on revolutionizing the status and wellbeing of companion animals.

SHELTER MEDICINE

Perhaps the most innovative achievement the Duffields have made to date is revolutionizing veterinary medicine by developing and supporting shelter medicine education. (Read more about this transformation of shelter medicine on page 12.)

Dr. Laurie Peek, Maddie’s board member and Duffield’s daughter, has taken a leadership role as Director of Veterinary Programs. “I never learned about animal sheltering when I was a veterinary student,” Peek recalls. “I graduated from Cornell in 1996 and the first ever course in animal sheltering at a vet school was at Cornell in 1999.”

In 2001, Maddie’s funded its first comprehensive shelter medicine program
at UC Davis, including teaching, research and service with residency training. “Once UC Davis’ program was funded, other universities developed an interest,” said Peek. They expanded the program, providing grants to veterinary colleges to integrate shelter medicine into the veterinary curriculum, training veterinarians to save the lives of sick and injured dogs and cats in animal shelters. “The goal for our shelter medicine programs is to develop evidence-based information to save more homeless animals,” said Peek. Funded programs have included UC Davis, Auburn, Western University, Cornell University, University of Wisconsin, Iowa State, University of Florida and Purdue University. “Our funding has helped develop new leadership that will keep shelter animals well and treat those who are sick and injured,” Duffield said. “Shelter medicine is now a recognized and respected field of veterinary medicine, and nearly every one of the 28 veterinary colleges offers varying degrees of shelter medicine training.” PAWS Chicago has been a beneficiary of this shelter medicine grant program. When challenges with local traditional shelter transparency created hurdles to Chicago’s application to receive a Maddie’s community collaboration grant, PAWS Chicago reached out to Purdue University School of Veterinary Medicine to gauge interest in pursuing a Comprehensive Shelter Medicine grant. In 2008, Purdue received the third-largest grant in Maddie’s Shelter Medicine history, funding veterinary residency and training programs as well as cutting-edge studies. (Read more about the Program and Studies on page 14 and 18.)

The effect of the development of shelter medicine has resonated throughout No Kill sheltering. “Shelter medicine has had a profound impact on our operations,” said Paula Fasseas, founder of PAWS Chicago. “It is one of our Core Pillars of No Kill, along with proactive adoptions, targeted spay/neuter services and a robust volunteer program. We cannot thank Maddie’s enough for funding our partnership with Purdue and supporting our annual shelter medicine operations, enabling us to save even more sick and injured animals.”

TRULY VISIONARY

With the innovation and resources that David Duffield and Maddie’s Fund have brought to the cause of homeless pets, it is not surprising that the No Kill movement continues to gain momentum across the nation. In recognition of their many achievements, PAWS Chicago is presenting the David Duffield Family with its first Visionary Award at the 2012 Fur Ball. With advocates like the Duffield Family, there is hope across the nation for homeless pets.

Join TEAM PAWS 2013!
Race against the clock or set a new personal goal of saving the lives of homeless pets in 2013 with any athletic event of your choice as a member of TEAM PAWS. See a list of featured races at teampaws.org

580 athletes put their best paw forward, joining TEAM PAWS in 2012. TEAM PAWS athletes raised one-third of the cost to operate the Adoption Center. These funds will enable PAWS Chicago to save the lives of more than 5,000 homeless pets this year. Thank you!

Giving homeless animals hope...

Our mission is to raise the quality of life for pets and people who love and need them.
What Makes Our Pets Itch?

By Dr. Robert Dann, DVM

“My dog stays up all night scratching herself!”

Itchy skin, known as “pruritus,” is one of the most common reasons people seek out veterinary care for their furry friends. Although there are many causes of pet itch, the vast majority of cases of pruritus are attributed to a few main ones: allergy, external parasites and adverse food reactions or hypersensitivity. These primary diseases often affect the integrity of the skin, paving the way for secondary causes of itch such as infections or dry skin. Let’s go into the primary problems in more detail.

Allergies

When animals are allergic to something around them, it often affects their skin. One of the country’s largest pet insurance companies cites skin allergies as the second most common claim made for dogs and the fifth most common claim for insured cats. Allergens absorbed through the skin or, less commonly, inhaled or swallowed, will cause a hypersensitivity reaction in the skin, known as “atopic dermatitis” or “atopy.” Symptoms often begin as redness and proceed to the animal licking, chewing, scratching or excessively grooming itself. In dogs, atopy-related pruritus occurs most commonly in the paws, face, groin, flanks, armpits and ears, with ear infections a common complication. In cats there is no usual pattern with atopy. Hair loss can occur from excessive licking or scratching and scabby eruptions in the skin, known as miliary dermatitis, are not uncommon.

Depending on what it is our pets are allergic to, their symptoms might be seasonal. If pollen is the offending allergen, we can expect itchy pets during the non-winter months. With an unseasonably warm winter in 2012, I received many calls in February and March from clients whose dogs were rubbing their faces, chewing their paws and scratching excessively due to the early arrival of tree pollen. However, if the allergy is to something found indoors – such as dust, dust mites or household mold – the scratching might occur year-round.

External Parasites

Fleas. Yes, they are dreaded. And for good reason! The most common parasitic cause of pruritus in cats and dogs is the flea, and considering that one insect can bite hundreds of times in a day, a single flea has the potential to wreak havoc on your pet’s skin.

When a flea bites, its saliva is injected into an animal’s skin where a protein in the saliva can act as a potent allergen. A flea-allergic pet can remain severely itchy for many days after a single number of flea bites, so all allergic pets need rigorous, continuous protection from flea bites. Ruling out the possible presence of fleas is paramount in any itchy pet.

There is a simple test that can be performed at home to check for evidence of fleas. With a pet in a sitting position in the bathtub or on a table or counter, vigorously rub the lower back and tail base area up and down with your fingers. If a pet has fleas, there probably will be flea droppings in these areas. When rubbed, these droppings (essentially little specks of flea-digested blood from your pet) will fall to the surface. Take a flat, moistened paper towel and holding it by two corners, pull it over the surface where your pet had been sitting. The flea droppings will appear as little black specks that smear out bloody on the wet paper towel.

Mildly infested pets are pretty easy to treat, but with heavy infestations, the pet and its environment must be treated. Other parasitic causes of pruritus in pets, much less common than fleas, are various forms of arthropods known as mange mites, lice or chiggers. Your veterinarian will be able to identify these parasites with a few simple tests and a microscope.

Food Hypersensitivity

Food hypersensitivity is a non-seasonal allergic reaction to food or additives in the diet. It can occur in pets at any age, including very young pets and elderly pets that have consumed the same diet for many years. In cats there is no classic pattern of lesions, but pruritus abounds. Redness, hair loss, scabs and crusts may be seen on the torso and limbs, or may be confined to the head and neck areas. In dogs, pruritus can occur anywhere, including the ears and rear end.

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Diagnosing food hypersensitivity can only be done accurately by utilizing a strict elimination diet. It is necessary to feed a diet containing only one source of protein and one carbohydrate. Food can either be prepared at home or a prescription diet can be purchased from your veterinarian and must not contain any food or additive that was included in a previously fed pet food. This includes treats, table scraps or the flavoring agents used in pet medications. Elimination diets must be adhered to strictly for 10 to 12 weeks. Be wary of commercially available “hypoallergenic” diets, as many have tested positive for items not suitable for diet trials. Such trials are best conducted under close supervision from your veterinarian as meticulous attention to detail is necessary for success.

Multiple primary causes of pruritus can occur simultaneously, unfortunately, and each may lower the threshold for itch for the others. As an example, a pet that is food-allergic may be more severely afflicted when a seasonal pollen allergy occurs, or a pet suffering from a seasonal allergy may react much worse to flea bites than it would in the winter time when there is no tree or grass pollen.

Secondary Causes

As mentioned earlier, the primary causes of pruritus will often set the table for secondary or “perpetuating” causes of itch, such as infection. Allergic pets are more susceptible to bacterial (most notably Staph infections) and yeast infections (known as Malassezia). These often recur on the skin, paws and in ears, which can greatly worsen your pet’s pruritus. Ear infections, for instance, are reported by a major pet insurance company as the most common claim for dogs. The vast majority of these ear problems are secondary to a flare of the allergy. Signs of an ear infection in a canine companion can include head shaking, scratching at the ears, excessive wax production, redness, thickening or swelling of the ear canal and bad odor. Infections must be treated when they occur, and more importantly, the allergy needs to be controlled or discomfort will continue and infections will recur, potentially developing antibiotic resistance.

The author wishes to thank board-certified veterinary dermatologist, Dr. Cecilia Friberg, for reviewing this article.

An Update on RED

Just over six months ago, Dawn Schaible finalized the adoption papers for Red, PAWS Chicago’s beloved Pit Bull ambassador who became paralyzed after being shot while protecting his owner during a home burglary. In celebration of his adoption, PAWS team members and volunteers threw a bon voyage party in Red’s honor and wished him well on his new life journey.

We recently checked in with Dawn to ask how Red is adjusting to his new life in a loving home and how she, her daughter, Finley, and Razor, her six-year-old Beagle, are enjoying their newest family member.

Dear PAWS Chicago,

Life has been great with Red since the adoption became final! He has always fit into our home since day one and is very fond and protective of Finley and me. Red also loves having Razor as a constant companion. After all, it is pretty tough to take afternoon naps on the couch together and then have his humans doze on him and play with him, including one of his favorites, tug-of-war!

It is rather amusing that Red has picked up on Razor’s habit of sitting either by Finley’s high-chair or by the dining room table when it is mealtime. If I do not acknowledge him or happen to accidentally drop something for him he proceeds to “speak” to me repeatedly; it is so funny! Red and Razor do it two walks everyday and they love it! It has actually helped both of them slim down. I recently discovered how much Red loves big tree branches! When storms bring down branches to the street, Red finds a nice big branch to drag home and play with. It is so cute watching him carry it home. He is so proud of it! - it is almost like he is smiling as he carries it.

I usually express Red every four hours and he gets twice a day – including his favorite, pumpkin! I provide him with his necessary medications and supplements and he goes to underwater treadmill therapy every other week where he receives a massage and does “puppy crunches” and stretches. He loves the car rides there and back – he gets so excited!

I would like to thank everyone at PAWS Chicago for allowing me to adopt Red and providing ongoing support whenever I needed something or have questions. Thanks also to Red’s “Fairy Dog Mother,” Dr. Barbara Royal! We also want to thank everyone for Red’s wonderful adoption party! It was so much fun! Red has truly touched our lives and has made such a difference!

- Dawn
Joyce Lieberman

“I volunteer at PAWS Chicago to give a voice to the animals,” says Joyce Lieberman, who has dedicated her time to helping homeless animals since February 2011. “I was drawn to PAWS Chicago because of its reputation and because the organization is the largest No Kill shelter in Chicago.”

“PAWS Chicago gives me hope that there is a home for every animal - no matter how old they are or in what condition they came from. "I started picking up strays and dropping them at Animal Care & Control without knowing what goes on behind the scenes. After taking a tour and learning about how I could help, I found out that PAWS Chicago was transforming the concept of animal shelters and I wanted to be a part of this.”

Joyce found PAWS Chicago after her employment status changed and began volunteering at the Adoption & Rescue Center in Kitty City as a Level 1 volunteer and Adoption Counselor. She also generously opens up her home as a foster for cats who need some time in a home environment as they recover from illness or injury or just need a little time to grow before they are ready for adoption. Leveraging her background as a teacher and college professor, Joyce recently started her own business — Joyce Walks Chicago — where she guides guests through amazing Chicago neighborhoods and shares information about history, art, architecture and local culture. “Through my work, I interact with a diverse group of people each day. This easily transfers to working with potential adoptees in Kitty City.”

In addition to her seven resident kittens at home, Joyce receives inspiration from the many homeless pets who are adopted into their forever homes. She says, “It gives me hope that there is a home for every animal - no matter how old they are or in what condition they came from. Red’s story, the paralyzed Pit Bull who was cared for at PAWS Chicago before he was adopted, says it all.”

Joyce Lieberman

Heather & Mark Yeager

For Heather and Mark Yeager, saving the lives of homeless kittens was the result of turning lemons into lemonade. After knee surgery that sidelined Heather from competitive tennis, and children in high school who were demanding less of Heather and Mark’s time, the couple began looking for a way to make a difference. According to Heather and Mark, “Our family has always been passionate about animal causes and the timing was perfect, because there is nothing more healing than cuddling little kittens when you are stuck at home recovering from an injury.”

The couple was introduced to PAWS Chicago through a friend and chose to get involved with the Foster program. “PAWS Chicago is one of the few shelters with a foster program, which enables people to contribute time volunteering in their own home, rather than spending large amounts of time traveling to and from and working within a shelter,” they said. “It’s perfect for people who are busy with their families.”

Leveraging their experience growing up with stray and barn cats, Heather and Mark, along with their two children, Alex and Samantha, specialize in providing a safe, loving foster home for kittens. To date, they have fostered more than 100 kittens in the past two years. “We have a coach house apartment we call the ‘kitty penthouse’ where the kittens have their own living space, completely separate from our own pets – three dogs, three cats and three birds,” they said. “And by the time our foster kittens arrive at the Adoption Center, they are always very well-nurtured and socialized.”

According to Heather, who works in the field of home renovation, design and restoration, and Mark, the President and COO of Hub Group, Inc., some of the most special moments they are caring for pregnant moms and being with them for the whole birth experience. “It’s really exciting to wait for the delivery of kittens and to watch them grow and develop,” they said. “We are so happy we are able to provide a peaceful and comfortable birthing environment for these creatures, many of whom would be giving birth in alleys, abandoned buildings or doorways.”

One of the biggest challenges Heather and Mark face is getting attached to the kittens in their care. “We always form affection and deep bonds with the kittens, but we approach it as babysitting someone else’s kitten,” they said. “We are socializing and caring for a kitten who will soon graduate to its forever home and it’s quite a treat to watch all their stages of development, from birth when their eyes are closed and they are helpless, to the point when they learn to pounce or just curl up and purr on your chest.”

The biggest lesson Heather and Mark have learned is how vital fostering is to saving lives. “Fostering provides the shelter with expanded capacity, and therefore the ability to save a larger number of animals. We have been very impressed with the level of commitment and dedication shown by the veterinarians, staff, and volunteers at PAWS Chicago,” said Heather and Mark. “Animals are at the mercy of humans and it is our job to protect them. It is also imperative that we provide assistance and education to those who may not have the funds to properly care for their pets. PAWS Chicago is a huge asset to the community and serves as a tremendous role model for all shelters. We are very proud to be able to contribute our time and energy to such a wonderful organization.”

Gloria Rojas

Gloria Rojas never considered herself a dog or cat person until her Husky, Nanook, came into her life at just eight weeks old and opened a whole new world for her. “Nanook made me realize that there were other animals out there who needed help,” says Gloria. She started picking up strays and dropping them at Animal Care & Control without knowing what goes on behind the scenes. After taking a tour and learning about how she could help, she found out that PAWS Chicago was transforming the concept of animal shelters and she wanted to be a part of this.

Gloria joined PAWS Chicago in June 2007, before the opening of the Adoption & Humane Center and has since become a Dog Town Level 1 volunteer and participates in the Family Service program with her niece, Kayla. However, Gloria’s primary focus is on PAWS Chicago’s Foster program.

“My very first foster experience is one I will never forget,” says Gloria. “I was given three nine-week-old puppies who were to be with me for only a short time. Unfortunately, the puppies developed pneumonia. After several trips to the hospital in the middle of the night, their foster program.

short-term stay ended up being three months. Thankfully, each puppy recovered and found homes. After that foster experience, I thought that if I can handle three puppies with pneumonia and my own dog, being a foster mom was going to be a piece of cake.”

For Gloria, fostering is the most rewarding thing she’s ever done and her involvement is making a true difference in the lives of animals. “These dogs come to me with physical or emotional scars and need my help to bring out their inner beauty with a little time and effort,” she says. “Knowing that I’ve helped an animal through a difficult period in their life, and watching them become healthy, trusting and more secure again, makes it all worthwhile.”

Finding motivation from being a part of the solution alongside PAWS team members and volunteers provides Gloria with inspiration to give more animals a second chance at life. “I enjoy working with the PAWS team and volunteers who share my passion,” she says. “It feels like a family at PAWS. We celebrate our successes and mourn the occasional heartaches, and I appreciate having met different people and forming lasting relationships.”

Saying goodbye to her fosters, including Blanco, a Siberian Husky who stayed with Gloria for more than four months, is sometimes the hardest thing she has to do. “People are always asking me how I can give up my foster dogs after dedicating so much time to them,” she says. “I tell them that, as a foster mom, I have gained so much knowledge and skill from working with them that even though it breaks my heart, I need to say goodbye so I can move on to help the next deserving dog.”
When they first arrive in their new homes, some dogs may feel as if they are in a foreign country where they don't speak the language. They are introduced to their new family and they are unaccustomed to the rules of their new household. This can be frightening or overwhelming and contacting an experienced dog trainer may be helpful. Training can help your dog overcome the language barrier and help teach appropriate behaviors.

A dog cannot be expected to have good manners without learning basic obedience skills. These skills include basic leash behavior, greetings, coming when called, sitting, lying down and staying. Sometimes dogs may have a little trouble with exercises that require a degree of impulse control due to their age or stage of development. These problems can usually be rectified with additional training, patience and work.

Many house training problems also fall into this category. Sometimes puppies are not given proper guidance and they grow into adult dogs who still have accidents in the house. Crate training and supervision can usually get the dog back on track. Many problems can be managed by simply providing structure or by giving the dog more exercise and enrichment.

But sometimes this isn't the case. Dogs, like people, can develop fears and phobias from traumatic experiences or neglect. These anxieties can prevent a dog from learning or developing any degree of emotional stability. Behavioral problems are mental or emotional disorders that are not related to training. Although training may help, it doesn't solve the problem. Some behavioral problems may also have an underlying medical issue.

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In this case, it is important to contact your veterinarian for a medical or behavioral diagnosis. Your veterinarian can then determine the next step. Your veterinarian may give you a treatment plan or refer you to a veterinary behaviorist. A veterinary behaviorist must complete a two-year residency under the guidance of a board-certified veterinarian. They are professionally certified as Diplomates of the American College of Veterinary Behaviorists (ACVB). Veterinary behaviorists are knowledgeable in psychopharmacology and may incorporate medication in certain cases. They use techniques that are used in psychiatry and psychology including behavior modification and life style changes.

Many times your veterinarian or veterinary behaviorist may include an experienced trainer to help implement their training plan. In this situation, it is important that the veterinarian, trainer and client all work together and keep the lines of communication open. The most important thing to remember is that there are qualified professionals out there to help. Seek help from these professionals before the frustration of dealing with a behavior problem becomes overwhelming. You and your dog will both be happy that you did!
Few would deny that a bond exists between human beings and animals. And for most, the word bond holds mostly positive associations – “an agreement; a connection based on affection; a joining together to increase strength; a promise.” Yet by definition, the word also contains a dark side. To bond also means “to restrain, imprison, tie with ropes or chains, or forcibly attach.” Such is the contradictory nature of the human/animal bond author Wayne Pacelle describes in his book, *The Bond; Our Kinship with Animals and Our Call to Defend Them*.

Pacelle, the current president and CEO of the nation’s largest animal protection organization, The Humane Society of the United States, tracks the ways man has depended upon, cared for, admired, worshipped and loved animals over hundreds of years — and the ways man has exploited, abused and in some cases, nearly extinguished them.

*The Bond’s* story is not new — animal advocates and their fierce opponents battled long before the humane movement gained momentum in the 19th century. Pacelle walks the reader along a fascinating timeline beginning with the first interactions between prehistoric man and wolves, showing both the mutual benefits of the human/animal bond and the ways man has betrayed this bond in the quest for power, profit, “sport” and even science.

In short, Pacelle’s book is about hope. Hope for change, hope for humane alternatives to worn out practices that cause pain, suffering, and hope in the power of “human resourcefulness guided by conscience.” The book is about the restoration of the human/animal bond, despite man’sfailings. Pacelle’s retelling of the events surrounding Hurricane Katrina exposes a government that was not only ill-prepared to handle a natural disaster, but one that failed to recognize just how much companion animals mean to those facing the loss of everything they hold dear. One need only read the story of the little boy whose family left home for the safety of the Superdome during Katrina, and cried hysterically as government officials who were there “to help” confiscated his only comfort — his small dog, Snoball. The author writes, “The government’s plan presumed that when things got really bad citizens would be willing to leave pets behind. As it turned out, when they were put to the test, most people had more character than that, more loyalty. They weren’t about to turn their backs on dogs, cats and other animals they considered family. Official policies sold people short. Pet owners were prepared to leave behind a member of Team PAWS, their cat, Buddy, to also be a PAWS supporter!”

Yet as Pacelle lambasts the government’s failures, he is quick to point out the heroism of local and national animal organizations and their rescue efforts, and end with the ultimate good that can came from one of the worst natural tragedies in American history. “Out of an awful situation came a new awareness, and then new policies and a new determination... Never again would (the U.S.) be so ill equipped. Never again, when it came to disaster preparedness, would animals be overlooked and left behind.” And this, in a nutshell, is the beauty of *The Bond*. Despite a long history of infractions, the suffering and the lessons humanity has learned and has yet to learn, the human/animal bond endures. And if it is honored, there is hope.

**Our Kinship with Animals, Our Call to Defend Them.**

Pacelle’s rage is tangible as he struggles to understand how the man sounding penitent to him is the same man who with his own hands drowned a dog struggling for his own life, and taken pleasure in watching dogs tear each other up. This man had been up close and personal. I had to decide whether HSUS should have anything whatsoever to do with him. Pacelle chose hope — not in Vick’s change of heart, toward which he maintains a healthy skepticism, but in the light Vick’s case might shed on this specific and growing form of animal cruelty, and in the supportive fuel it could lend to the campaigns HSUS undertook to change the law and end the suffering of these dogs. Others in animal welfare question whether this choice was wise, pointing that capitulation to Vick’s public relations arm gave Vick the absolution and redemption he sought through an embrace between human beings and animals.

Pacelle opens the book with the obvious, stating that “When it comes to people and animals, power is asymmetrical, and all advantages belong to us.” One would expect a detailed laundry list of the countless ways man has harmed his greatest allies. Yet the book is anything but the expected and unbearable account of humanity’s cruel transgressions against animals and depressing forecast for the future of human/animal bond. From every horrendous crime man has committed against these voiceless creatures, Pacelle pulls not only the positive change that occurred as a result, but a strong sense of hope in humanity’s proven and evident capacity for repentance and reform.

In his many years immersed in animal welfare, Pacelle has seen all types of atrocities committed against animals, and *The Bond* leaves no sordid stone unturned. Faint-hearted readers, be warned; Pacelle covers the major hotbeds of animal welfare including dog fighting, hunting, factory farming, whaling, culling, puppy mills, laboratory testing, failed natural disaster response and more with hard facts and honesty. One need only flip through the 44 pages of footnotes to confirm that he has done his homework and not relied on dramatic propaganda to showcase the istry.

Yet, from page one, Pacelle’s own heart is exposed through the personal anecdotes he infuses in each area he covers, hyper conscious of the fact that merely shaming humanity’s misdeeds hinders real reform. His outrage and sorrow are evident throughout *The Bond*, but he does not forget to report the progress the world has made and the individual triumphs of people who have taken a stand for animals.

In short, Pacelle’s book is about hope. Hope for change, hope for humane alternatives to worn out practices that cause pain, suffering, and hope in the power of “human resourcefulness guided by conscience.” The book is about the restoration of the human/animal bond, despite man’s failings. Most controversial is Pacelle’s encounters with convicted dog fighter and NFL quarterback, Michael Vick, as he offers his perspective on how sometimes even the most egregious betrayal of the human/animal bond can ultimately lead to reform. His interview with Vick epitomizes this controversy — a Q&A in which the athlete and owner of Bad News Kennels describes how he drowned dogs who “didn’t perform” by holding their heads in a bucket of water. “Did he struggle?” Pacelle asks, and Vick replies, “Yeah, he was struggling.”

By Patty Donmoyer

Patty Donmoyer is a writer and longtime supporter of PAWS Chicago. She has run marathons as a member of Team PAWS. Her cat, Buddy, is also a PAWS supporter!
Dear PAWS Chicago,

One morning, my daughter Lily said, “Dad, I know I can’t be an animal when I grow up, so I think I want to take care of them and work at a zoo or vet office.” Lily was about four years old at the time and her love for animals and genuine concern for their well-being has only grown.

Lily really wanted a dog for her 10th birthday, but we weren’t ready to take on the responsibility of another pet (two cats, a dog, and a bird seemed like enough.) We did, however, want to do something related to animals. In doing some research, we found PAWS Chicago. The PAWS mission: “To build a No Kill Chicago—a city where pets are no longer destroyed just because they are homeless,” could not have been conceived in greater alignment with Lily’s nature.

PAWS Chicago’s Run for Their Lives 8K was the perfect birthday present. We decided to travel from Cleveland to participate in the run. Lily was thrilled to have the chance to raise money and meet the challenging goal of running an 8K to save the lives of animals. She and I spent the summer training, getting ready for the race.

Finally the weekend of the race was here. We made the drive from Cleveland to Chicago. We had so much fun walking around before the race and seeing all the amazing dogs. We took our place, and before we knew it, we were on our way. All the hard work Lily put in from the summer paid off. Our goal was to finish under an hour. Lily finished in 54:49. It was wonderful to see the pride and sense of accomplishment on her face as we crossed the finish line, knowing she had raised more than $3,000 for animals in need.

Before we left Chicago, we decided to visit the PAWS Adoption Center to see where the money was going. What an amazing place. It was so wonderful to see animals without owners being so well loved and taken care of until they found a permanent home.

As we walked around, we found one room with three puppies. It was pretty much love at first sight. There was no way we were leaving without the little brown and white puppy. Playful and sweet, smart and loving, Sam was meant to help Lily celebrate her 10th birthday. In the end, Lily got her birthday wish as well as realizing much love at first sight. There was no way we were leaving without the little brown and white puppy. Playful and sweet, smart and loving, Sam was meant to help Lily celebrate her 10th birthday. In the end, Lily got her birthday wish as well as realizing much love at first sight. There was no way we were leaving without the little brown and white puppy. Playful and sweet, smart and loving, Sam was meant to help Lily celebrate her 10th birthday. In the end, Lily got her birthday wish as well as realizing much love at first sight. There was no way we were leaving without the little brown and white puppy. Playful and sweet, smart and loving, Sam was meant to help Lily celebrate her 10th birthday. In the end, Lily got her birthday wish as well as realizing much love at first sight. There was no way we were leaving without the little brown and white puppy. Playful and sweet, smart and loving, Sam was meant to help Lily celebrate her 10th birthday. In the end, Lily got her birthday wish as well as realizing much love at first sight. There was no way we were leaving without the little brown and white puppy. Playful and sweet, smart and loving, Sam was meant to help Lily celebrate her 10th birthday. In the end, Lily got her birthday wish as well as realizing much love at first sight. There was no way we were leaving without the little brown and white puppy. Playful and sweet, smart and loving, Sam was meant to help Lily celebrate her 10th birthday. In the end, Lily got her birthday wish as well as realizing much love at first sight. There was no way we were leaving without the little brown and white puppy. Playful and sweet, smart and loving, Sam was meant to help Lily celebrate her 10th birthday. In the end, Lily got her birthday wish as well as realizing much love at first sight. There was no way we were leaving without the little brown and white puppy. Playful and sweet, smart and loving, Sam was meant to help Lily celebrate her 10th birthday. In the end, Lily got her birthday wish as well as realizing...
In Memory of Shirley & William Kennedy

Shirley and William Kennedy were married for 63 years and resided in Norwood Park. They raised five children and both loved animals very much. The family always had dogs; their first, a German Shepherd and thereafter, all Labrador Retrievers, who would all accompany them on family vacations. Of course, we did have the occasional outdoor activities was cooking for his friends. We remember with fondness. Our dog Ted, our beloved pet, was always by his side. Ted passed away in March 2012, in the Hospice Unit of Evanston Hospital, with his sister, Christine, and his aunt, Lynda, by his side. He had a lost a courageous and hard-fought battle with cancer. He was born in Conneaut, Ohio, on Oct. 25, 1963. Rick lived in Chicago for 48 years. In his last 15 years, he attended a Chicago Nursing Home, where he received his care. He was a caring and loving person. He will be missed by all who knew him.

In Memory of Eric W. Brabender

Eric William “Rick” Brabender, age 48, of Chicago, died Thursday, March 22, 2012, in the Hospice Unit of Evanston Hospital, with his sister, Christine, and his aunt, Lynda, by his side. He had a lost a courageous and hard-fought battle with cancer. He was born in Conneaut, Ohio, on Oct. 25, 1963. Rick lived in Chicago for 48 years. In his last 15 years, he attended a Chicago Nursing Home, where he received his care. He was a caring and loving person. He will be missed by all who knew him.
In Honor of a Person continued

Children of the Seder Ee/o Camimer by Miriam and Joan Caminez.  
Christine Churchill and Patricia Burke by Janet Le averaged.  
Megan Clements by Max Kranz and Robin Black.  
Rachael Clark by Joseph Schneider.  
Melanie Cohen by Gali.  
Vaguna Collmer by Alexander, Chip, and Dana Rosemont.  
Martin Curiouo by Mary.  
Carole Cougus by Gary and Lisa.  
and by Sarah de Fussa Pousa.  
Brenda Davesky by Kenneth and Erica Liss, Danielle and Aspen, and Ford the rest of the Streets, including Butner).  
Eric and Ashley Davis by Brooks Davis.  
Tiler Delano by Lynn Davis.  
Ad Dby by Ayea.  
Alding Dofelas by The Legal Division of the Special Liberties Association.  
Sarah Jefferson by Ballard Dofin.  
Gail Dunn by Steve, Jerry, Krayon, Jamie and Pauly.  
Joe Dowsdy by Clays, Tom and Angol.  
Fenn Edson by Gary Eden.  
Lina by Ashley Pail.  
Paula and Peter Fesic by Hon.  
John and Mrs. Roger G. Fein.  
Paula and Peter Fasseas by Ashley Pahl.  
by Gary Edson.  
Linda and Lanney Hunter by Maranta St,ta-Buget.  
Magda Slowik.  
Laura Slivka.  
John Patrick Sherlock.  
by Paul and Sally Purcell.  
by Jason and Renee.  
Byron Scarborough.  
by Suzanne Krohn.  
by Crain Communications Inc.  
by Sonali Rajan.  
by Beth.  
by Beth.  
by Janae, Chad and Nolan.  
Photograph by Kara Schultz.

Sarah Ditton is an animal advocate whose aspirations may one day lead her to caring for animals herself. As an avid animal lover, Sarah enjoys riding horses and caring for her families three rescue cats — one resulting from a failed foster — and a Border Collie. She also is a junior at Lake Zurich High School where she has set her sights on a degree at MIT or Stanford, followed by veterinary school. In the meantime, the school is a proud supporter of P4WS Chicago and recently made a generous donation in lieu of gifts for her birthday. “PAWS Chicago makes me really happy because it allows me to know there is hope for many of the animals in the city pound,” said Sarah. “All I want for animals to be happy, so when more animals are happy, I am happy.”

Gifs made between March 13, 2012 and July 31, 2012 in memory of the following pets

Auburn by Miss Dixie.  
Matt & David.  
Abigail.  
Zoem J. Precioso, Robby, Sophie, Sadie, Domino, Bailey, Maggie, Muffins, Melia, Ellie, Tisham, Finn, Tiki, Max, Socks, Pete, Kevin, Max, Sarah and John.  
by Stella Barrister.  
by Niki, Arlie, Dolly, Barbie, Lil, Sassy, Charlie, Alder, Bailey, Morgan, Diddle, Dora, Tilly, Squirt, Linda, Rikki, Lucia, and El.  
by Joseph Schneider.  
by Penny, Jenny, Corky, and Farah Denehan.  
by Jane, Autumn and Ali.  
by Anthony R. Louise.  
by Fanchon and Dana de Fussa Pousa.  
by James Barclay.  
by Rob and Kathy Ziebell.  
by Karen Woodson.  
by Rob and John.  
by Kenneth and Erica Liss, Danielle and Aspen, and Ford the rest of the Streets, including Butner).  
by Gail Fries.  
by Agnes, Chrissy and Lisa.  
by Beth.  
by Jenny Ellegood, Niki.
Memorials & Tributes

In Memory of Lucy Gleason

Lucy was loved by so many and touched so many lives. She will be forever remembered by her friends and mother, Kim.

“Lucy in the sky with diamonds...Kim and I sang it all the time to her. Her beautiful, elegant, graceful demeanour was so much like her mother’s. It was as if we both had a word in a word, it would be ‘lady’. Lucy really is in the sky now, I’m sure wearing diamonds, and her bright and beautiful light is still shining down on Kim and all who knew her.” – Cher

“In my now a red spaniel with the same soulful eyes that Lucy has, and Lucy is the reason I went to PAWS Chicago and found my Max. I will always love and treasure the time I had with Lucy.” – Lee

“I was Lucy’s first foster mom before she hit the doggy jackpot and became Kim’s faithful companion and shadow. She had a very first look at sweet Lucy was on Oak Street. Kim had offered to babysit her until a permanent mom would be found. A short time later, I saw Lucy and Kim and was not surprised that Kim was her forever mom. It was meant to be!” – Margie

“Kim wanted Lucy to get in touch with her herding pedigree so we took a trip to the farm, but Lucy was a sophisticated Gold Coast gal and wanted nothing to do with wet, muddy grass or smelly sheep. Lucy couldn’t wait to jump back in the car and get back to her home in the city.” – Tom

“I was Lucy’s first foster mom before she hit the doggy jackpot and became Kim’s faithful companion and shadow. She had a very soulful eyes that Lucy gal and wanted nothing to do with wet, muddy grass or smelly sheep. Lucy couldn’t wait to jump back in the car and get back to her home in the city.” – Tom

“In Memory of Sunny Gorske

In Memory of Dakota Wester

In Memory of Roscoe Glickman

In Memory of Lucca DiGangi

In Memory of Wolf Wallace

In Memory of Luna Tamspas Lazar

In Memory of Moscow Stafman

In Memory of Perry Ruud-Shoemaker

In Memory of Madison Crawford

In Memory of a Pet continued

Beloved by Mimi the whole family Ben by Melissa Bogusch Bound by Scott Friends in Marketing and PR Bertie by Katie Duffy Bessie by Mary & Tim Bigger by Anne Burke and Bar Rothenberg Better by Carolyn Roots Andrews and Sandy and Scott Lusen Blum by Jenna, Carlos Kim, Bobbie, and Bobbi and June Lasting Ben by Sara Jansen Bernd and Josephine by Julie Shapiro Beside by Michael Episcope Betsy by Leah Berlin Bruiser by John Jacek Buck by Robert Nage Buckley by London, Michelle, Peyton and Brady Buddy by Yvonne Ellis Buddy by Matthew Scherbon and Pat Corle Buddy Beside by Mossi RNsustained Banner by Doug and Jackie Rapp Caleb Lestina Marn Cally by Peg Caleb by Consuela Linn, Bing and Mei Cappy Zulkey by James Zulkey Casey and Toby by Joan and Jerry Lavson Cheri by Kathy McKerman Charlie and Luca by Peggy Duffy Charlie and Luca by Peggy Duffy Charlie and Luca by Matthew, Matt & David Dolly by Dan, Paul and Pegg Eddy by Angie Eddie by Timmy, Jim and Moosie Ewig Edward by Jacki and Gary Emby by Judith White Eyper by Peter and Paula Fassies Eyer by Ysabell Janatan Figgie by Thomas Carman Flip by Taii Szaussa Flippy by Tony Stackpolo Flurry by Matthew and David Samson Frostbite by Bridget McManus Fumiko by Nancy Trimble Gigi Marchand by Craig and Lisa Weste Ginger by Jason, Ray Cody and Cooper and Denber, Dan, Snow and Issa Colletti-Hudson Ginny by Bobb and Jack Grazzy by Juhi and Sande Gunner by Thi McChreyls Gunne by Betty Shep Gumme Bear by Kevin, Dan and Oxln Gumme Malam by Juno and Ter Gunner by Linda and Larry Hays by Karen Uomikas Hals by Maggie Hawkey by Siiso, Sarah Charlie and Sponsor Honey by Beth Warranzow Hordy by Perry and Ter Hudson by Mike Rosensbloom Ida by Judy Rahm Isby by The Bank Jacked by Amanda James Malo by Jason and Snow Jane Hendricks by Malisa Kane Jolly by Rita June by Linda John Fraser by Carolyn JJ Krugman by the Propps Joe by Wanda, Zerry, Sarah, Patrick, Amika, Bryan, Swan, Bliska, Flower, and Cherish Jeness by Daniel by Craig and Liz Kaderne Almam by Drea, Tony and Timi Kate by Lyndsay Kooten by Len and Erin Davis Kilo by Kilo Wilson Kobo by Giuseppe, Marianne and Aimey and Judy Hopkins Koko and Rocky by Pam and Gordon Kuch by Nancy McDaniel, Craig Kinnison, Jeff Boser and Monica Young

In Memory of Riley Garvey

In Memory of Madison Crawford

Dwight Freeman Carroll by Pat Ross Hachby by Matt, Mark & David Duffy by Dan, Paul and Pegg Eddy by Angie Eddie by Timmy, Jim and Moosie Ewig Edward by Jacki and Gary Emby by Judith White Eyper by Peter and Paula Fassies Eyer by Ysabell Janatan Figgie by Thomas Carman Flip by Taii Szaussa Flippy by Tony Stackpolo Flurry by Matthew and David Samson Frostbite by Bridget McManus Fumiko by Nancy Trimble Gigi Marchand by Craig and Lisa Weste Ginger by Jason, Ray Cody and Cooper and Denber, Dan, Snow and Issa Colletti-Hudson Ginny by Bobb and Jack Grazzy by Juhi and Sande Gunner by Thi McChreyls Gunne by Betty Shep Gumme Bear by Kevin, Dan and Oxln Gumme Malam by Juno and Ter Gunner by Linda and Larry Hays by Karen Uomikas Hals by Maggie Hawkey by Siiso, Sarah Charlie and Sponsor Honey by Beth Warranzow Hordy by Perry and Ter Hudson by Mike Rosensbloom Ida by Judy Rahm Isby by The Bank Jacked by Amanda James Malo by Jason and Snow Jane Hendricks by Malisa Kane Jolly by Rita June by Linda John Fraser by Carolyn JJ Krugman by the Propps Joe by Wanda, Zerry, Sarah, Patrick, Amika, Bryan, Swan, Bliska, Flower, and Cherish Jeness by Daniel by Craig and Liz Kaderne Almam by Drea, Tony and Timi Kate by Lyndsay Kooten by Len and Erin Davis Kilo by Kilo Wilson Kobo by Giuseppe, Marianne and Aimey and Judy Hopkins Koko and Rocky by Pam and Gordon Kuch by Nancy McDaniel, Craig Kinnison, Jeff Boser and Monica Young

In Memory of Lucy Gleason

Lucy was loved by so many and touched so many lives. She will be forever remembered by her friends and mother, Kim.

“In memory of a red spaniel with the same soulful eyes that Lucy has, and Lucy is the reason I went to PAWS Chicago and found my Max. I will always love and treasure the time I had with Lucy.” – Lee

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Lucy was loved by so many and touched so many lives. She will be forever remembered by her friends and mother, Kim.
In Memory of a Pet companions

Memorials & Tributes

In Memory of Cappie
March 22, 1997
February 5, 2012
The old girl was my best pal, my shadow.
Lots of great memories.

In Memory of Mertz

The choices we make in life that really count are rarely the big ones that seem like they will define our existence, but the small ones that actually do.

Fifteen years ago, we adopted a second dog to share our life with Harry. We went to a shelter in Chicago and walked past the puppies and the happy-to-see-you-dogs, to a cage with no obvious occupant. Hidden at the riddle of her cage with her back to the world, was a little black dog with no interest or hope. She was to be euthanized tomorrow.

We thought, “No one’s going to adopt her, we don’t!”

We brought her home and named her Maya. Maya snapped at Harry for three hours whenever he came close to us or her, no matter how much he tried to get her to play, no matter how gentle his approach.

On the third night, as we were getting into bed, we suddenly heard a different sound. Glancing over the foot of the bed, we found the two of them playing, dancing on their hind legs to silent music, three days of Harry’s charm and persistence being enough to sweep any girl off her feet.

From that moment, until Harry died three years ago today, she was Robin to his Batman. Bonnie to his Clyde. He took care of her and she loved him. A perfect match.

Five thousand, five hundred and fifty days later we said goodbye to a soul that is as kind and loving and loyal and open hearted as any I have ever met. For the first fourteen years, she rounded us up whenever we came in any door, careful to make you forever.

- Paul Lisnek

In Memory of Cappie

Angela Getchell and Sara
Amabile by Dr. and Mrs. Kurt Miller
Kathy by Lynn and Bob
Chase Cooper by Anna James
Copper by Kristal and Jonathan
Creeper by Adrienne Foster, Akiko Tarumoto, by The Weiner Family
Darby by John and Tracy Vercillo
Sally by Teri & Perry and the Boys
Eva by Daniel Duke
Zoetis by CC and Steve
Zephyr by Drew and Anne Stoolcker
Tracy by Dr. and Mrs. Kurt Miller
Isabella by Jennifer Pehling, Jennifer Stroebel, Mosher, Carolina Avila, Cindy Michalowski, CME
Abe by Adam, Gretchen, Amelia and Greta Kurtz
Kai by Virginia, Crema and Jonathan
Dakota by Theo and Kim
Bridget by Pam and Tim
Scooter by Addy, Bob, and Lauren
Duff byRusty by Joan, Debbie and Will
Theresa by Grammy and Marvin
BeCKa by Amanda Hansen, Amber Ponitz, Jodi Reilly
Rusty by Adam, Ruth, and Tracey
Zoey by Laura and Karen
Scooter by Addy, Bob, and Lauren
Gabi by Rowan Morris
Alley by Alissa Bernardi, Amanda Hansen, Amber Ponitz, Jodi Reilly
Benny by John and Tracy Vescio
Mitzie by Joanie, Maroon, Orlando and Jeff
Kinks by Lisa, Craig, and Betty
Scooter by Lew and Cindy
Phoebe by The Weiner Family
Duffy by Daffy and Danielle
Biff by Bruce and Sue
Maya by Carol Christensen
Hetty by Jannie
Parker by Jannie and Jonathan
Eva by Jennifer and Dan
Dakota by Sue and Dow
Scooter by Addy, Bob, and Lauren
Holly by Nancy and Lucy
Kaki by Sue and Tom
Tucker by Keith and Cheryl
Uma by Angela Doherty, Lucy and David
Uncle Doug and Aunt Val’s by Ilynn and Frank
Valby Ten and Terry and the Boys
Victoria by Sander and Alan
Vinnie by Ian Keupers
Waldo by Morris and Glee
Woody by Nita Shaik
Willow by Wendy Ke
Willow by Cy and Susan
Winnie by Dave and Anne Stoolcker
Whigley by Bob, Anna, Amanda, Holly and Rudy
Yoshi by Melanie Mark
Yogi by Joey and Andree Mann
Your Loyalty by Paul and Damarla
Your Pet by Zach and Shannon
Zoie by Dr. and Mrs. Kurt Miller
Zoe by Jacqueline Phillips and The Silver Family
Zoe Delilah DeFrance-Zarman by The Freimer/Wallace Family
Zulu by Ellyn and Dee

In Memory of a Cat

In Memory of Coco Carey

Our beloved Coco had such a BIG lovable personality; a neurotic, high maintenance, quirky-in-your-face, loyal, acutely sensitive, LOVABLE dog, who meant the world to us.

She was such a fighter; so brave, and so very, very smart. She inspired us in so many ways, including being my inspiration to get involved with animal welfare. She was my constant companion for nearly 14 years.

We were blessed in that she didn’t have any bad days.

She went out loving life: swimming twice a week, loving her weekly acupuncture and chiro treatments. Yes, she was “a bit of” a pampered pup. But she totally deserved it. R.I.P Coco. You were a once in a lifetime dog.

She was such a fighter; so brave, and so very, very smart. She faced her illness head on my pillow, and took a large place in my heart where he will reside forever. His loss for both my partner Brian and myself runs very deep. Tune will heal, and the sweet memories of his gentle being will keep a smile on my face. Will it matter that he was? Yes, forever in our hearts and with ongoing donations in his memory to FAW’s Chicago, he will not only live on in me, but will help those who come after him. May they only be as lucky as Mertz to join a home where they know only pure love. I hope to see him one day on that Rainbow Bridge…where I know he’ll be waiting… my best friend…we’ll love and miss you forever.

- Paul Lisnek

In Memory of Mertz

I lost my best friend, my soul mate dog on Labor Day. Mertz (named for I Love Lucy) was an old soul, a deep soul, a kind soul who bordered on that line of really being more human than animal. For 15 years he was at my side, slept with his head on my pillow, and took a large place in my heart where he will reside forever. His loss for both my partner Brian and myself runs very deep. Tune will heal, and the sweet memories of his gentle being will keep a smile on my face. Will it matter that he was? Yes, forever in our hearts and with ongoing donations in his memory to FAW’s Chicago, he will not only live on in me, but will help those who come after him. May they only be as lucky as Mertz to join a home where they know only pure love. I hope to see him one day on that Rainbow Bridge…where I know he’ll be waiting… my best friend…we’ll love and miss you forever.

- Paul Lisnek

Gifts made between March 1, 2012 and July 31, 2012 in honor of the following pets

Mona Glumman, Nancy, Fernandii, Nancy Esparza, Lessons Learned, Nicole Brown, Nicole Sweeney, Patrick Kandala, Rosaline Mevendo, Sandie Chin, Sarah Buza, Sunny Stepahen, Hannon Mustaf,Vent Group, Sleigh Eja, Sandra Evans, Susan Langworthy, Svetlana Subotic, W.W. Grantzer Inc, and Walter Furmanek
Sweety by Jennifer and Dan
Dakota by Sue and Dow
Scooter by Addy, Bob, and Lauren
Rudi by Carol Christensen
Larry by The two crazy humans you live with
Lola by Carol Christensen
Maddy by Sharon Lenz
Mig and Jack White by Laura McDowell
Merry, Randolph, Henry, and Major by Lana Subotic
Mozzie Kristian by Joe and Christine
Krinkus, Michael and Martha Kriest
Mr. Paws by Caroline-Nicole Figueroa
Pawsie by Rainie Loeffier
Cash by Chelsea Hatcher
Ringo by Grimm and Marvin
Sahme by The O’Sullivan Family
Smiley by Lisa Cohen
Stephanie Hjalmar by Katrina and Emma Kaider

In Memory of Maya

By Charles Day

© Wetnose Photography

The choices we make in life that really count are rarely the big ones that seem like they will define our existence, but the small ones that actually do.

Fifteen years ago, we adopted a second dog to share our life with Harry. We went to a shelter in Chicago and walked past the puppies and the happy-to-see-you-dogs, to a cage with no obvious occupant. Hidden at the riddle of her cage with her back to the world, was a little black dog with no interest or hope. She was to be euthanized tomorrow.

We thought, “No one’s going to adopt her, we don’t!”

We brought her home and named her Maya. Maya snapped at Harry for three hours whenever he came close to us or her, no matter how much he tried to get her to play, no matter how gentle his approach.

On the third night, as we were getting into bed, we suddenly heard a different sound. Glancing over the foot of the bed, we found the two of them playing, dancing on their hind legs to silent music, three days of Harry’s charm and persistence being enough to sweep any girl off her feet.

From that moment, until Harry died three years ago today, she was Robin to his Batman. Bonnie to his Clyde. He took care of her and she loved him. A perfect match.

Five thousand, five hundred and fifty days later we said goodbye to a soul that is as kind and loving and loyal and open hearted as any I have ever met. For the first fourteen years, she rounded us up whenever we came in any door, careful to make you forever.

- Paul Lisnek

That your life can change in an instant.
That patience will overcome fear.
That life is a joy-ride every day.
That the world is as big as you make it.
That finding someone means filtering that noise to hear what they want, not what you think they should want. It was the last of her many lessons.

That you can touch someone with your love comes in small, furry black packages.

Today, the world is a little darker than it was yesterday.
And heaven is a little lighter.
We welcome you for everything, from the bottom of our broken hearts.
And we know that once again you are dancing with Harry and Harry’s private domain. It would have been good for her to decide she’d waited for our undivided attention for eight long years and to reject the interlopers out of hand. But each year as we added another, she looked at us as quizzically for a few minutes then went about showing them the ropes.

It was not until the last nine months or so that Maya needed or wanted any special attention. But as Alzheimer’s took hold of her neurological functions, and old age took hold of her leg muscles, we spent more and more time helping her around the house. Over the last few months she needed full time hospice care.

And when she told us she was ready, we were lucky to have a vet come to our house and help us hear her wishes, gently and peacefully, surrounded by her family and in our arms.

Listening, really listening, is borderline impossible in this whirlwind world, the sound of life rushing by like the wind in the trees on a storm-filled day. And there have been many days over the last few weeks when we thought it was time. But each time we pulled back, though her body was frail, her will and determination to be here were not.

And in those final weeks Maya taught me that listening means filtering that noise to hear what they want, not what you think they should want. It was the last of her many lessons.

- Paul Lisnek

- Paul Lisnek

- Paul Lisnek
A bequest to PAWS Chicago, the city's largest No Kill humane organization, is a wonderful way to save the lives of homeless cats and dogs long after your lifetime.

For information on PAWS Chicago's planned giving programs, please call (773) 890-5116 or visit www.pawschicago.org.

Robert Kabakoff Leaves a Legacy for the Animals

When Robert Kabakoff adopted his first dog, Zydeco, from the city pound in Phoenix, Arizona, the state of homeless animals left a lasting mark. “The sadness that I felt from seeing the living conditions motivated me to do all that I could for animals in need,” says Robert. “I truly wish that I could have been able to take all of the orphaned animals home that day but promised myself that I would do more throughout my life to promote animal adoption.”

After becoming involved with PAWS Chicago – as a volunteer, donor, fundraiser and Development Board member, Robert worked with his attorney to plan a trust which included a gift for PAWS Chicago through its Guardian Angel program so that homeless pets would be taken care of if he were no longer around to do so.

“I hope my gift will provide an even better environment for homeless and sheltered animals as they wait to be adopted.”

According to Robert, “The process of setting up my trust was very easy with the help of my lawyer. Including PAWS Chicago in my trust took only a matter of minutes.”

Through PAWS Chicago's Guardian Angel program, Robert takes comfort in knowing that he will continue to help create a No Kill Chicago, even after he is gone. “Katie and I don't have any children of our own and we really want to make a difference with such a wonderful cause,” says Robert. “I couldn't be happier to help provide food, shelter and foster care until homeless pets can find their forever home. I hope my gift will provide an even better environment for homeless and sheltered animals as they wait to be adopted.”