



Don't Miss the
Event of the Year!
See Pages 7 & 8
for Details.

West Suburban Humane Society

STRAY THOUGHTS

Help Us Raise Funds For Our Biggest Event Of The Year!

In this edition of Stray Thoughts:

- Get your Barkapalooza Brochure and start collecting pledges!
- Learn about the latest in stem cell research on dogs on page 4.
- 50/50 Split the Pot Raffle Tickets on page 6.

West Suburban Humane Society has now made it easier than ever to collect donations for our biggest fundraiser of the year, Barkapalooza Walkathon and Pet Expo. If you are planning on participating in this year's event, logon to our web site at www.firstgiving.com/wshs. From that site, you can register for Barkapalooza and create your own fundraising web page.

Getting started is easy . . .

It only takes a few minutes to create your online fundraising page.

- Click the Get Started button.
- Personalize the text and the photo of your online fundraising page to express your passions and your purpose.
- Send the link out to your friends, family, colleagues – anyone you think will help you reach your goal. Ask them to forward it on to their contacts as well!
- When you set up your web page through Firstgiving, you will be entered into our Split the Pot Raffle drawing.
- For every \$100 of donations received, another entry for you is placed in the drawing.
- The winner is guaranteed a minimum prize of \$1,000! The winning ticket will be drawn on Sunday, September 28th at the 2:00 pm end of our event.

Calling all teams!

Another good way to raise funds is to form a team and collect money as a group. The team that raises the most money will receive the following:

- Special team t-shirt
- Team photo at the event
- Free one year membership to the shelter



- Free meal at the event

Don't delay, set up your web page today!

West Suburban Humane Society shelter services include:

- Pet Adoptions
- Free Pet I.D. Tags
- Community Education
- Humane Investigations
- Pet Behavior Counseling
- Spay/Neuter Referrals
- Lost & Found Hotline



Our Shelter Hours Are:

Weekdays:

11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Weekends:

11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Closed Wednesdays

Upcoming Events 630-960-9600, ext. 25

SEPTEMBER

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 st , Monday | Labor Day – WSHS will be closed. |
| 28 th , Sunday | 15th Annual Barkapalooza Walkathon and Pet Expo.
Look for your flyer in this edition of Stray Thoughts! |
| 29 th , Monday - 1 st , Wednesday | Jewel Shop & Share
Stop by the shelter if you need more coupons. |

OCTOBER - ADOPT A SHELTER DOG MONTH

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| 25 th , Saturday | Mutts Need Moola! Look for WSHS at Jewel Stores in the Downers Grove area collecting money for the homeless animals at the shelter. |
|-----------------------------|---|



INTEGRATED PRINT MANAGEMENT

BFC donated services
to the production of
"Stray Thoughts."
The design and printing of
the newsletter were provided
below cost.

1051 N Kirk Rd
Batavia, IL 60510
630.879.9240
800.774.6840
Fax 879.9260
www.bfcprint.com

WSHS Wish List

- Paper Towels
- Food (our animals are on a specific diet: so that we don't upset their digestive system, we must be specific) Purina or IAMS (Dry) cat and dog, kitten and puppy formulas, light formula – cat and dog and senior formula – cat and dog. Any canned cat, dog, kitten and puppy food is fine.
- KMR (kitten milk replacement), small baby bottles and nipples
- Dog and cat toys (washable and indestructible!)
- Cat litter (no scoopable)
- Stamps (to be used for postage)
- Garbage bags (13 & 30 gallon sizes)
- 6" paper plates
- Lint Traps
- Volunteers!
- Monetary donations are always appreciated!

WEST SUBURBAN HUMANE SOCIETY

STRAY THOUGHTS is an official publication of the West Suburban Humane Society, a not-for-profit, volunteer-based animal shelter. No city, state, or federal funds support WSHS. Donations are tax-deductible as allowed by law. Please call 630-960-9600, ext. 25 to submit articles or receive donation information.

BOARD MEMBERS:

Guy Pinta, President
Cindy Johnson, Recording Secretary
Dawn Drella, Controller/Treasurer
Jennifer Bahlmann, Director
Pat Rowland, Director
Tyson Grover, Director

THE WSHS STAFF:

Executive Director: Carolyn Mossberger (Ext. 25)
Animal Care Manager: Sarah Stromberg (Ext. 23)
Night and Weekend Manager: Catherine Schmitt
Animal Care Assts: Kendra Crawford & Brigitte Black
Adoption Desk Manager: Kristy Moran (Ext. 10)
Volunteer Coordinator: Patti Miller (Ext. 45)

ADOPTION CENTER:

1901 W. Ogden Avenue,
Downers Grove, IL 60515
E-mail Address: Director@WSHS-DG.org
Phone: 630-960-9600
Fax: 630-960-9604



Ready For a Home



Twain

10-year-old, male, Dachshund mix

Hi, I'm Twain. I was recently returned to the shelter because my owner died and there was no one to take care of me. I'm a very sweet and friendly guy that is looking for his forever home. I am housebroken and crate trained. I know all of my obedience commands. I am good with other dogs and cats. I would do best in an adult only home. If I sound like the perfect dog for you and your family, stop by and pay me a visit. You won't be disappointed!

Texas

8-year-old, male, Shepherd mix

My story's pretty sad, so if you don't want to read it, I understand. I was recently brought to the shelter because my owner died and there was no one to take care of me. I was pretty stressed out being in the kennel when I first arrived but I am getting much better. I am a very sweet and friendly guy with a lot of love left to give. I was housebroken in my previous home. My owner had a big fenced in backyard that I used to love to run around in. Unfortunately, she never took me for walks so since I have been here, I have had to learn how to walk on a leash. My ideal home would be a quiet household with children 12 years or older. If you have it in your heart to give a guy like me a second chance, stop by and pay me a visit. You won't be disappointed!



Bee Bee

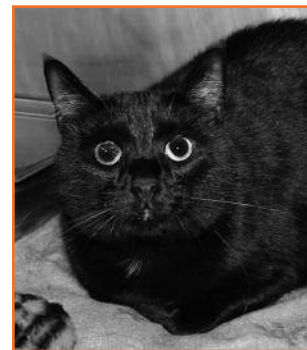
5-year-old, Female, Brown tabby

When you come to WSHS, you will have many cats to choose from. I don't stand out as particularly special because I am a brown tabby. But guess what, good things come in plain brown wrappers! My problem is that I am a curvacious gal in a small cage and this makes me, well, cagey. In a home, I love to be loved and can be the most loyal companion. I will be your one and only, and you won't be sorry. Please come visit me today!

Ticker

4-year-old, Male, Black DSH

I am one of those cats who was adopted from WSHS and returned years later. In my case, I began to resent the presence of another cat in my home. We were adopted at the same time and we got along great for a while. Recently, though, I began to fight with the other cat and display my displeasure with his presence. It is tough for me to be back here with all these other cats, but I am hoping against hope that someone will come looking for a black cat who wants to give all of his love to them and only them. Are you that person?



Pet Health Watch by Dr. Main, DVM

What is osteoarthritis and what can be done to manage the condition?

By definition Osteoarthritis is the pathological process of cartilage degeneration in mammalian joints. The symptoms or signs of the disease are morning stiffness, lameness after heavy exercise, or at times non-weight bearing lameness. Arthritis is usually caused by something that alters the normal function of the joint. This could include hip dysplasia, elbow dysplasia, ligament injuries, as well as many other conditions.

Once the pet begins to get extra wear and tear on the joints, the joint itself begins to produce destructive enzymes and other chemicals that fuel the fire of inflammation. In fact when cartilage is injured, the cartilage itself produces destructive enzymes, which then lead to further damage and inflammation. Hence, arthritis is a progressive disease. It is an ongoing circle of inflammation and cartilage injury.

There are many therapies available for the treatment of arthritis. These treatments range from joint supplements that help repair damaged cartilage, to anti-inflammatory drugs, as well as omega-3 fatty acids and other pain medications. In addition surgical procedures to fix underlying problems associated with the joint, or even joint replacements are part of arthritis therapies.



In addition to the above therapies, there is something very new and exciting in the treatment of arthritis. This new therapy involves the use of **stem cells** to treat damaged joints.

Stem cells are precursor cells; this means they are undifferentiated cells with the potential to develop into any number of cell types in the body including cartilage or other tissue type. Stem cells are the origin of all other cells they just have not differentiated into a tissue type yet. These unique cells hold the answer to treating many diseases in the future. For now these cells can be used in the treatment of canine arthritis.

How does this work?

As it turns out body fat and in particular falciform fat which lies just under the umbilicus is an excellent source of stem cells in the dog. Vet-Stem is a medical company that has developed techniques to isolate these cells for medical use.

Let's take a look at what would happen in an actual case.

The patient with arthritis undergoes a minor surgical procedure to harvest falciform fat from the body.

This fat is then shipped urgently to Vet-Stem for isolation of the stem cells. The stem cells which are now isolated and contained in syringes for injectable use are urgently shipped back to the veterinary hospital. The patient is

then readmitted to the hospital so that the stem cells can be injected directly into the arthritic joints of the patient.

Over the next month, the stem cells take on the identity of healthy normal cartilage cells as well as joint capsule cells and begin to return the joint to a healthy state. The stem cells do not correct underlying problems like hip dysplasia, but they do substantially help to return the joint to a healthy state.

Although this is a new procedure, the results thus far have been very promising. The potential for stem cell therapies in veterinary medicine is phenomenal. This work is truly the beginning of a new era in medicine.

Veterinarians must be certified to perform this procedure. There is a list of certified veterinarians in Illinois at www.vet-stem.com which includes Dr. Tyson Grover and Dr. Jeff Vidt of West Suburban Veterinary Associates.

Please address questions and suggestions for future animal health articles to:

Dr. Main
West Suburban
Humane Society
1901 W. Ogden Avenue
Downers Grove, IL 60515
director@wshs-dg.org



From Wags To Riches Raffle



West Suburban Humane Society is sponsoring a 50/50 Split Raffle. The winner of the raffle will receive 50 percent of the monies collected. The winner is guaranteed a minimum prize of \$1,000.

The winning ticket will be drawn on Sunday, September 28th at the 2:00 pm end of our 15th Annual Barkapalooza Walkathon and Pet Expo. The winner will be notified by phone no later than Monday, September 29th at 5:00 pm.

Suggested donation for each ticket is \$5.00

Or 6 tickets for \$25.00, giving you 1 free ticket!



Or 15 tickets for \$50.00, giving you 5 free tickets!







Need more tickets? Stop by our adoption center at 1901 W. Ogden Avenue in Downers Grove or call 630-960-9600, ext. 25. Remember to include your name and mailing address when you call and tickets will be mailed immediately. Tickets will also be sold throughout the day at Barkapalooza.

Shop and Share

**Don't forget this upcoming Jewel Shop and Share date:
Help the animals and get your holiday grocery shopping done at the same time!**

	SHOP & SHARE IDENTIFICATION SLIP													
						AMOUNT OF PURCHASE								
0840940														
GROUP NUMBER					STORE NUMBER					DOLLARS CENTS				
GROUP: West Suburban Humane Society														
YOUR SHOP & SHARE DAYS: 9/29/2008, 9/30/2008, 10/1/2008														
SIGNATURE _____														
<small>PLEASE SIGN THIS SLIP AND TURN IT IN TO YOUR CHECKER WHEN YOU SHOP. PARTICIPANTS CAN MAKE PURCHASES AT ANY JEWEL-OSCO ON THE DATE ABOVE. IDENTIFICATION SLIPS ARE NOT TO BE DISTRIBUTED IN FRONT OF ANY JEWEL-OSCO.</small>														
														

From Wags To Riches Raffle

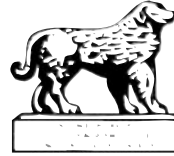
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A BIG THANK YOU

To all of our Barkapalooza Sponsors

Grand Champions - \$2,000 Sponsor

Hinsdale Animal
Cemetery and Crematory
Established 1926



Blue Ribbon Winners - \$1,000 Sponsors

 Downers Grove Reporter



Dog's Best Friend - \$500 Sponsors

Arboretum View Animal Hospital
Paws in Paradise Pet Hotel & Doggie Daycare
Platinum Partners – Renee Cantalupo
Crown Expo, Inc.
Community Bank of Downers Grove
Allegiance Underwriting
The Velvet Touch

Cat's Meow - \$250 Sponsors

American Chartered Bank of Downers Grove
Downers Grove National Bank
CRS Designs, Inc.
American Family Insurance – Local Agent Diane Harke
Chicks 'n Salsa
Baird & Warner of Downers Grove

HEARTY THANKS

To all the volunteers who worked a shift at Heritage Fest on June 27th – 29th. We raised \$3,000 for the shelter and even got some animals adopted! A special thanks to Kurt Mohr for his assistance with set up, tear down and a million other things during that busy weekend. We couldn't do what we do without our dedicated volunteers.

Colin Baichtal of Elmhurst had a 6th birthday party and asked his guests to bring donations for the shelter instead of gifts for him. He collected numerous food and supply donations.

Calvin and Caroline Westrick of LaGrange Park had a 100th birthday party for their dog Wednesday and collected items for the shelter from our wish list.

Patrick Johnson of Downers Grove donated \$30 of his birthday money to the animals at the shelter.

The **Whittier School Kindergarten class** raised \$12.19 for the animals at the shelter.

Jane Dilworth & Associates donated and planted a new maple tree for the front of the shelter. Contact Dilworth & Associates for all of your landscaping needs at 630- 515-1230.

Tristan Fermazin on Warrenville, IL had a birthday and asked that guests bring donations for the shelter instead of gifts for him. He collected numerous food, supply and monetary donations.

Maggie Wackenhut of Geneva had a birthday party and collected food donations for the animals at the shelter.

The fourth and fifth grade students at **St. Joseph School in Downers Grove** collected money from lemonade stands, leftover pizza money and allowance money for the animals at the shelter.

Twelve year old **Meredith Robinson** donated food, treats and toys in honor of her birthday.

Trey Ringelsten of Homer Glen had a 3 year old birthday party and asked that guests bring donations for the shelter instead of gifts for him. He collected food, supply and monetary donations.

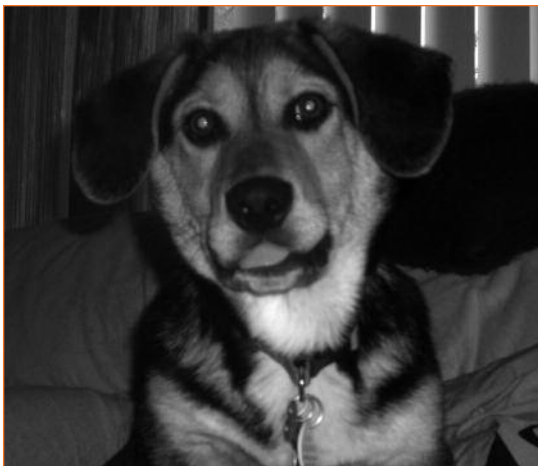
Ashlinn Thomas of Willowbrook asked for donations to the humane society for her 8 year old birthday. She collected numerous monetary donations.

The preschoolers at **Sunbeams and Rainbows** in Elmhurst raised money in honor of their teachers June Moss and Cindy Gundlack.

Sara and Amanda Zgonnia asked their neighbors to donate money in honor of their temporary care kittens, Danny and Daisy. They raised almost \$47.00.



E-Mails and Letters From Adopters



To everyone at the shelter, I adopted Timmy (beagle mix) and have since re-named him Lucca. He is the cutest, most curious little 4 month old ever. He loves us and he loves his new home. He adapted very nicely to a beautiful home, soft bed and three girls who love him. About a week after I adopted him, one of the volunteers (Linda Turek) sent the nicest, most thoughtful care package with a beautiful card to him telling him how happy she was that he found a home and tell your new family to send pictures. What a wonderful staff you have. It is so nice to go into a place where the animals look so sad but to see how well they are taken care of.

Well here's our latest picture of (Lucca).

Nancy Brogato