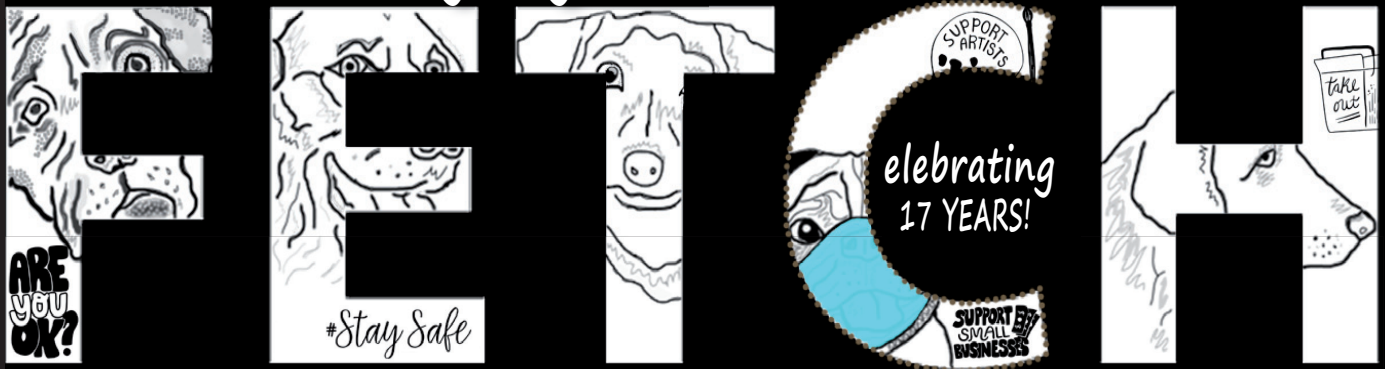


Wisconsin's No. 1 Dog Magazine

Summer 2020



For Dogs & Their Humans

The Pupdemic Issue



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COVID-19
Business
Guide Inside



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SUMMER 2020
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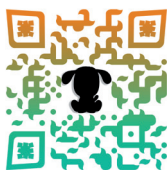
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FETCH MAGAZINE



A few weeks before the shoot, owner Dan Broege talked with IN-FOCUS Photography about the theme and ideas for the summer cover photo. Broege wanted to be ahead of the game. So he used that time to prepare his Ridgeback Reggie for his poses. Since Ridgies are very food motivated, Broege made sure to bring some of Reggie's favorite treats with him on the day of the shoot. Instead of photographing inside of the studio, the photographer used an open field area as a backdrop, which helped Reggie feel more comfortable. Reggie and Broege love going on off-leash hikes. When it came down to taking care of business, "Reggie was very cooperative and patient," says Broege. "He definitely brought his A game with his animated and soulful facial expressions." Reggie has a dog walker that comes a few days each week while Broege works, and from day one she nicknamed him Mr. GQ. Coincidentally, he has now lived up to that name.

Cover Dog
Reggie *with* Owner
Dan B.

BRITTANY FARINA ART



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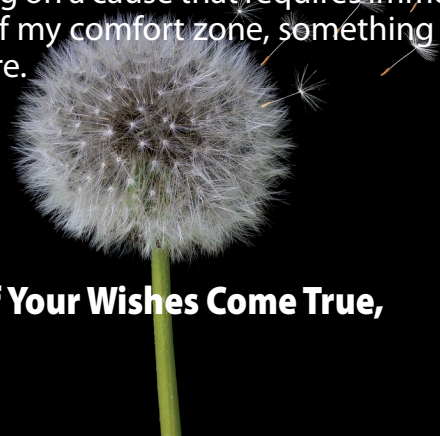
This year has been rough. I've been keeping my family and myself in a bubble of fear. Can you relate? Not only are most of us still afraid of catching this deadly virus, but also a lot of us have small businesses that are suffering from the previous Stay-at-Home order. As each day goes by, I try to force myself to stay present. It seems to be the safest place to be right now...at least for my own sanity. The future has way too much uncertainty and the past is over—so there's no changing that. I've decided that I need to reexamine what's important to me today. I need to make three wishes for the rest of this year, and make them come true. **Wish Number One:** Become and remain healthy. I don't know about all of you...but I've definitely been packing on the pandemic pounds. Besides the coronavirus, killer hornets, 5G, protests and riots, my personal kryptonite and comfort food in 2020 has become cake...I LOVE CAKE! My body, however, is not a big fan of cake...or exercising...but you've got to start somewhere. **Wish**

Number Two: Try to smile more and be happy. I hate Facebook with a passion. On one side, you have all of those happy family photos and vacations which look so amazing...so my brain goes...why can't I have that? STOP. Pictures are so deceiving. Appreciate what you have right now. Other people's lives aren't always greener. Take, for instance, the complete opposite side of this like all the depressing posts and articles about death and suffering. Sometimes you need to tune it out and turn it all off. Adding more anxiety into my day isn't helping me accomplish wish one or two. **Wish Number Three:** This one is my favorite wish of all: Do something great. It's pretty broad, but I feel the need to do or be a part of something great. It could be simply helping out my fellow neighbor or taking on a cause that requires immense time and commitment. I must do something that is out of my comfort zone, something that will change and reflect who I am meant to be in the future.

What are your three wishes for the rest of this year?
Let's try to manifest a better 2020 together.

May All Of Your Fears Disappear & May All Of Your Wishes Come True,

N. Putz



FETCH Anyone? Delivering During A Pandemic

BY PAULA MACIOLEK, COPY EDITOR

One of the many hats I wear for FETCH Magazine, and perhaps the least glamorous, is delivery driver. For going on about three years now, every quarter, I've been driving around for hours getting in and getting out of my car to give people in the Madison area FETCH Magazine. This means I visit vets, pet supply stores, groomers, daycares and so many others. I get to see so many things and so many dogs I wouldn't otherwise get to see.

This past spring issue was a different story. Driving through the empty streets of Madison while most people were staying safely at home, veterinary clinics were still keeping open hours for their four-legged patrons. Practices were dramatically changed however. All of them had signs on their doors explaining the new policies in place. There were variations in the theme such as wording, paper color and font size, but all of the messages were quite similar: Stay in your car. Call us to let us know you're here. We're doing curbside service. We will come get your animal from your car.

As someone who has been to the vet six times since the pandemic came to Madison, I'm a pro at curbside vet visits. I am grateful to have care for my animals in these times, and I support whatever practices my vets and the staff must do to protect themselves and me. It also means that I can bring my two dogs with me to vet appointments. They're becoming accustomed to not being alone, and they're always up for a c-a-r-i-d-e.

On the outside of Companion Animal Hospital, I was struck by the sight of a custom poster in the spirit of World War II's iconic Rosie the Riveter that spanned a whole office window. It was a cat as Rosie. What a positive message going out to all who see it!

Honestly, I wondered if I was just delivering magazines that would never get into the hands of readers. At the very least, I had hoped that the employees at these businesses would be able to enjoy a copy. I know the magazine brings joy to the employees for sure because I hear their "aww" when they see the cute dog on the cover.

One of my stops, EarthWise Pet Supply & Grooming (see [Pandemic Paradigm, pages 12-19, 37](#)), had no shoppers or grooming clients in their store, but they were still open and offering curbside service and home delivery. As I drove up to the store, I wondered if I should conserve my copies and not

deliver there. But I did it anyway. A couple of weeks later, one of the owners, Jeff Clark, asked us for more magazines. He wrote, "I initially thought 'That's silly,' I won't have any customers to give these to. But we got smart and started putting them in all of the home delivery and curbside pickup bags we are packing up these days. So they have been really well-received and probably getting more attention than they ever have." We are so grateful to Jeff and his creativity, and we were thrilled to bring him more copies.



I dropped a stack at Watertown HS. The shelter has no public traffic right now because they are not keeping lobby hours, and their numbers in the shelter are low. Staff has been creative in keeping animals from being surrendered to the shelter. Cassie Richardson, president of Watertown HS, explains, "If someone is looking to surrender their animals, we counsel them over the phone, and we will cross-post the animal for them, and we'll list them on our site." Animals that do enter the shelter often go into foster homes as soon as that is possible. This is just one more example of animal service professionals

guiding their community through a pandemic experience.

Some places that I deliver to each quarter were still open for foot traffic: Mounds Pet Supply and Pet World. And I'm grateful for their employees who work in such high-traffic areas to make sure my animals have all the food, toys and other supplies that they need.

It was so difficult seeing the grooming businesses all closed on orders from the State. Businesses did not know when they would be able to open up again. I waited until restrictions eased up and they were opening up again to deliver to them. There are also a few emergency vets on my route. Those are open 24/7, but they have COVID-19 safety instructions on their doors, too.

I would just like to say, "Thank you to all of the veterinary offices, stores, groomers and other dog-promoting businesses who serve as the conduit between FETCH and our readers." This magazine could not be circulated without you. I'm looking forward to the day when I can deliver not to the ground in front of your sign-covered door but actually open that door and come inside. That would mean we are on the other side of this uncertain and unprecedented time. I can't wait to personally hand you a stack and once again hear you responding "aww" at your first glimpse of our cover dog. Until then!

THE VET IS IN

CAN MY PET GET COVID-19?

BY MEGAN TREMELLING, DVM, LVS



Short answer: It's unlikely.

Long answer: This is going to take a while.

By now, everybody has heard the basics of this story repeatedly: A previously undocumented virus was discovered at the end of 2019, and unfortunately the way it was discovered was that it was killing people. Since then it has spread around the world, sickening millions of people and killing hundreds of thousands. Throngs of scientists have been studying it to try to learn how it travels, who gets it, how it causes harm and how we can stop it. New information becomes available every day, and sometimes it conflicts with previous information. It's bewildering and frightening. In the midst of it comes the information that COVID-19 may, possibly, be able to infect household pets.

Should we be worried about our dogs and cats? Can they get sick? Should they be tested?

Possibly the most important thing to understand about SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, is that nobody has the full story on it yet and won't for a while. Medical research is a complicated subject. A positive test is not the same thing as an active infection. An infection is not the same as illness. Being ill is not the same thing as being contagious. All these factors, and more, make it challenging to know how worried we should be. Collecting and interpreting data, unfortunately, takes time and expertise. And while it seems like every journalist and politician pretends to be an epidemiologist or infectious disease specialist, really, most of the people you are hearing from are not experts. This includes me.

This is what we know so far:

Some dogs and cats have tested positive for the virus. In the case of pets, they are thought to have been exposed to the virus by their owners. However, many animals that have been exposed to ill owners have tested negative. It

seems likely that the number of animals that have had the virus is very small compared to the number of humans who have had it. Although it is quite contagious among humans, we don't seem to be efficient at infecting our pets.

Some animals, including ferrets and tigers, have shown signs of illness that may have been COVID-19. In experimental situations, cats have shown signs of COVID-19, but this has not been observed under natural conditions. So far, COVID-19 does not appear to cause serious illness in dogs; as a matter of fact, it may cause no disease at all. Not enough animals have tested positive for us to know. Thus if a dog or cat is feeling ill, it is extremely unlikely that it is due to COVID-19. They are much more likely to have one of the other viruses or bacteria that can affect them.

So, if you are sick, should you worry about your pet? The CDC suggests that if you are sick, it would be best to have someone else care for your pet while you keep a wide berth. If this is not possible, wear a facemask, hold off on snuggles and kisses and wash your hands before and after interacting with your pet. Testing pets for COVID-19 is not routinely recommended.

Whenever people are stressed, it is natural to worry. The possibility of illness occurring to a beloved pet is one of the things we worry about. However, so far it does not seem that the COVID-19 virus poses anywhere near the threat to our pets that it does to our human loved ones. As always, if your pet is feeling ill, you should contact your veterinarian and explain your concern. They can evaluate your pet and provide care regardless of the cause.

For the most up-to-date information about COVID-19 in humans or in pets, you can trust the experts at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: [cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov).

What it is:

Cognitive Dysfunction Syndrome (CDS) is degeneration of brain activity that occurs with age. Commonly, these changes occur slowly with time, typically in dogs and cats over the age of 11 years old, with prevalence increasing the older the pet becomes. CDS is commonly compared to dementia in humans as many clinical signs can be similar and also worsen with age.

Causes:

Brain atrophy, or degeneration, occurs with age. This means the actual size of the brain decreases as well as the number of neurons. These changes are more notable in the cerebellar and cerebral areas of the brain. As atrophy occurs, cerebrospinal fluid fills in the empty areas.

Levels of neurotransmitters such as dopamine have been found to decrease with age. This results in decreased neurologic signaling and activity.

Beta amyloid plaques, which are proteins that damage neurons, increase with age, causing further cognitive dysfunction.

Vascular changes are common with age, and micro-bleeds and infarcts can occur that stop the normal blood flow to the brain and thus decrease oxygen and glucose to the brain.

Signs:

1. Confusion. Examples include staring off, getting stuck in a certain location in the house such as a corner or closet.
2. Loss of memory, changes in ability to learn. This includes accidents in the house or problems with training or known commands.
3. Activity changes like excessive licking, pacing and repetitive behavior.
4. Changes in response to stimuli/interactions with people. For instance, excessive barking, lack of interest and separation anxiety.
5. Change to sleep cycle. This may include pacing at night, deep sleep during the day, anxiety and restlessness.

Diagnosis: Diagnosis of CDS is made based on clinical signs, the pet's history and how they respond to treatment. Other disease processes that can cause similar signs should be ruled out or treated prior to diagnosis of CDS.

Treatments: Diets containing omega-3 fatty acids, antioxidants and mitochondrial cofactors have been shown to improve cognitive function related to age. These diets may take several weeks before improvement is noted.

Medications: Selegiline is an enzyme blocker that slows down the breakdown of catecholamines such as dopamine, norepinephrine and epinephrine. It can also increase the production of dopamine. Most of the time, improvement is noted in 2-4 weeks after the medication has been started.

S-adenosylmethionine (SAM-e) is a supplement more commonly used for liver support. It has been shown, however, to have benefits in treating cognitive dysfunction.

Anti-anxiety calming medications and medications that increase cerebral blood flow have also been shown to help with the clinical signs associated with cognitive dysfunction.

Environmental Therapy: Environmental enrichment is a very important part of improving and maintaining cognition. Teaching new tricks can benefit both the owner and the pet and establish routines. New toys and consistent exercise are recommended as well. If hearing loss is a part of the aging process, then working on hand signals can be very beneficial and make for an easier transition if deafness occurs.

Prognosis: At the end of the day, age should not be thought of as a disease. Many of these dogs can have a good quality of life with the proper care from their loving owners.



BREED PROFILE



Rhodesian Ridgeback: South African Prince of Hounds

BY NASTASSIA PUTZ, PUBLISHER

Let's Back Track

Rhodesian Ridgebacks are true Renaissance hounds. They are good at a variety of things and have an exciting history. Dutch colonists in southern Africa used the native hunting dogs of tribes and combined them with the more popular European breeds: Greyhounds and Terriers. Thus creating an athletic, regal-looking dog that could hunt in packs and track down lions. They were able to successfully find and confront these predators and keep them trapped by howling at them or baying from a safe distance. Imagine a pack of dogs surrounding the king of beasts like the hyenas did in Disney's "The Lion King." Ridgebacks were effective companions for South African-born Cornelius van Rooyen—big game hunter and dog breeder—in the late 19th century. Never killing the lions, the Ridgebacks would howl (bay) at them so the hunter had adequate time to pull out and dispatch his rifle. Ridgies are the national dog of South Africa.

Fun Fact: In the 1930s, movie star Errol Flynn ("The Adventures of Robin Hood") was the first breeder in the United States. He bred them on his Hollywood ranch, however the bloodline is now extinct.

It's All in the 'Tude

Most importantly, today they are devoted family dogs that are good with children—two-legged children of the human variety, that is. Ridgebacks have an extremely strong prey drive stemming from their days of trotting alongside hunters on horses and chasing down prides. Cover dog owner Dan Broege says his dog Reggie may have high energy, but he is still his couch potato at heart. "Reggie is super friendly, loves people and other dogs, but is very protective of the house." Reggie will guard the house all day yet sleeps under the covers in the bed at night. Ridgebacks are typically very strong-willed dogs that are independent, loyal and domineering.

Keeping One

Because they are the stereotypical strong-willed four-legged children, Ridgies need a firm trainer from youth on. The ideal candidate is someone who can positively steer them in the right direction, keeping them on a tight leash but with lots of exercise. They need training classes and early socialization in order to become well-mannered and well-adjusted companions, according to the American Kennel Club. Though this dog is extremely loyal to his or her family, this is a dog that lives indoors and needs to be fenced-in when outside and off leash due to a heavy prey drive. Broege says his Ridgeback is a freak of an athlete yet possesses some unique quirks. Reggie is a whiner and a kisser but only kisses strangers! Weird. Not the typical



Rhodesians Were Bred To Hunt Lions

behavior for a Ridgie. Usually, Rhodesians are quite affectionate with their owners and more reserved with strangers. Broege also mentions that Reggie loves to watch TV and will only chew on bones that Broege holds for him. Talk about your atypical royal Ridgie.

As for appearance, this beautiful breed should look muscular, symmetrical and balanced in outline, according to the AKC. They have a signature ridge of hair down their back and range in size. Their grooming needs are small as they only require the basics: nail trimming, brushing and bathing as upkeep.

Caring For One

Having a canine companion and truly caring for one, based on a dog's breed and individuality, are two separate things. Ridgebacks are strong, athletic dogs and need moderate amounts of daily exercise. They make great tracking and agility partners for the canine sports enthusiast. They are also highly intelligent and require mental stimulation alongside their physical needs.

Question: It takes brains and brawn to track down a lion...right?

As far as training goes, force-free dog trainer Holly Lewis of Cold Nose Canine says all breeds learn the same. She trains dogs using food, touch, toys, praise and life rewards. Lewis may not need to adjust her methods for breed; she, however, does make accommodations based on the needs, motivations and instincts of each individual dog.

"So we focus on the good the dogs are doing," says Lewis. "We also focus on setting up the environment for the greatest success." Lewis is currently training two Ridgies and notes they are a strong, active and durable breed that she finds to be somewhat mischievous yet very loving.

"Rhodesians are bred to hunt lions, so hunting instincts are deep," Lewis confirms. "So caution should be taken around rabbits and other small animals."

Note: For anyone looking to care for this breed, she says be sure to have adequate space and time. "Any breed, especially larger dogs, will need to be well-trained to represent the breed well."

AKC Stat Box

Temperament: Affectionate, dignified, even-tempered.

Appearance: Muscular, symmetrical & balanced in outline.

Height: 25-27 inches (male), 24-26 inches (female).

Weight: 85 pounds (male), 70 pounds (female).

Breed Quirk: Ridge of hair on the back.

Coat: Short, dense, sleek and glossy.

Color: Light wheaten to red wheaten. A little white on the chest and toes.

Life Expectancy: ~10 years.

A PANDEMIC PARADIGM

Our Doors Might Have Been Closed...

But Our **Hearts** Remained
Open for Business!

It is still quite controversial whether or not the coronavirus—you know that evil virus circling the U.S. since at least January of this year—was really worth closing all of our businesses down for weeks, potentially causing many of us to have to close them permanently.

Many business owners, regardless if they agreed with the Stay-at-Home order or not, took each day in stride and found

unique, fun ways to keep and engage a customer base amidst a pandemic.

Take a look at the following businesses to see how they've been surviving these crazy times.

Also, check out the **K9 Marketplace** to find out which businesses are offering curbside, delivery or appointment-only options this summer.

*Today's
Special*

DOGGY DAY CARE: BEYOND THE PANDEMIC

As a community, we have weathered one of the most unsettling and unpredictable times in our history and agree that it is finally time to regroup and begin the process of getting accustomed to the new “normal.” Whether working from home or back in an office, it is time to return to our daily routines—and that includes your dog.

THE NEW NORMAL

Dogs, like humans, tend to be social and thrive on structure and routine as well as mental and physical exercise. While juggling work, kids, homeschooling and your household, your dog may not be receiving the attention it needs to thrive. While it seems that your dog may sleep all day when at home, this is not the case if they are enrolled in a reputable doggy day care program that offers personalized attention, stimulation, activity and the appropriate amount of rest they need.

Central Bark knows that a healthy, happy dog is paramount to any dog owner, and thus offers their personalized Whole Dog Care approach which relies on the latest science-based methods to enrich dog’s whole health—their physical, mental and emotional well-being—throughout their entire life.

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CENTRAL BARK’S HEALTH & SAFETY PROTOCOL

Central Bark’s priority has always been the health and well-being of the dogs in their care throughout the pandemic and beyond and is strictly following CDC, American Veterinary Medical Association and state guidelines. In addition, while Central Bark’s store cleaning procedure already exceeds the mandated protocol, we have added the following Health and Safety Protocol:

- **Enhanced deep cleaning and disinfecting:** The company remains vigilant and has doubled the frequency of in-store cleaning and disinfecting procedures utilizing veterinary-hospital-grade disinfectants. *All staff are following CDC guidelines as it relates to handwashing.*
- **Curbside pickup:** Customers can call or message when they arrive, and they will be met at the door or car. Your dog’s leash will be unclipped and a slip lead added to take the dog into and out of the building.
- **Hand sanitizer and hand washing:** Both are available to guests and staff.
- **Social distancing:** Maintaining 6-foot social distancing to respect everyone’s space and comfort.

For more information, please log onto www.centralbarkusa.com and contact the store in your area to learn more about Central Bark’s health and safety protocol and our Whole Dog Care approach.



SUBMITTED BY CENTRAL BARK

PBAOA LAUNCHES “BETTER TOGETHER” IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

Like the dogs we love so much, we crave connections: A hug, lending a helping hand, a kind word. While we can’t be close physically right now, we can still have meaningful connections. This crisis is bigger than any one of us or any one organization. It is going to take all of us showing kindness to lift the world out of the current darkness.

Since this pandemic grew exponentially in the United States, there are families barely scraping by and those that have lost all income within a matter of days. There are also families that haven’t been as drastically impacted financially but have found themselves trying to navigate a new work environment at home with the entire family. There are those essential workers who may be afraid of what they’ll bring home to their family. While we all may not be in the same boat, we’re all trying to navigate this the best we can.

At Pit Bull Advocates of America, we know our base of supporters is filled with kindhearted folks willing to go out of their way to help people and pets in need.



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MKE Downtown (414) 347-9612	Oak Creek (414) 571-1500	Wauwatosa (414) 771-7200



Connect with us.

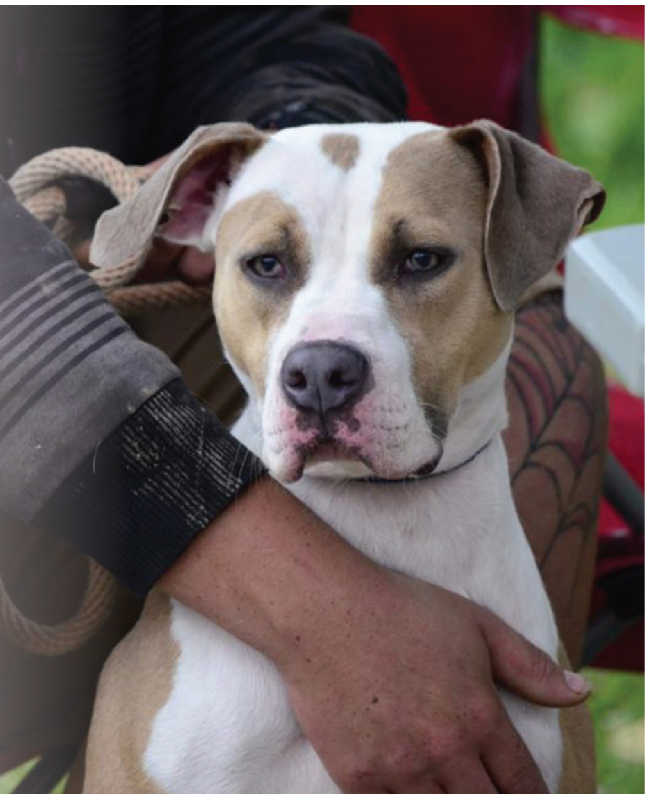
We also know our following isn't immune to the financial impact of COVID-19. Whether you need help or are able to be a helper, we can connect you through our new Better Together program.

Those in need and those who are able to help fill out separate questionnaires. Our team reviews the submissions and matches families together based on their responses. Better Together helps with needs such as emotional support, providing food, clothing or toys for people and/or their pets, researching local resources like food banks for folks unable to do so... we're trying to help in any way possible.

At Pit Bull Advocates of America, we're always focused on spreading love and compassion. COVID-19 hasn't changed that about us in any way. It's only inspired us to find new ways to do more of it! If you need or want to help, please visit our website at <https://pitbulladvocates.org/owner-support/better-together/>

Be a light in someone's darkness.
Join us in being Better Together!

SUBMITTED BY PBAOA





Surviving Coronavirus: *Small Businesses Battered but Hopeful*

BY CHERESE COBB, FREELANCER

Facing plunging sales and shuttered doors, nearly half of small businesses don't have the resources to stay afloat. They could go under in 90 days if circumstances don't drastically improve, says a new Goldman Sachs survey.

With so many unknowns being thrown at them, they're creating entirely new services, shifting how they deliver products and replacing in-person appointments with video conferences. Here's how local pet-related businesses are adapting to the new normal.

For The Love of Drax, LLC

When Staci Blythe adopted Drax from Elmbrook Humane Society in Brookfield, Wis., she didn't know that dogs could have allergies. "Drax has a white stripe on his head. It'd break out in hives," she says. After six months of trial-and-error treatments, she took the Boxador Bulldog mix to Lakeshore Veterinary Specialists. He was diagnosed with 17 year-round allergies.

Drax is allergic to corn, mold, pollen, grass and cats. The one-year-old is sensitive to feathers and sheep too. So, just to be safe, he doesn't eat poultry, lamb or sheep. He's on topical creams and takes nightly immunotherapy drops. "He hides his ears and pretends it's the end of the world," Blythe says. He gets weekly medicated baths. Sometimes, she cooks bland diet-type foods for him, so she can hide his antibiotics. His treatments cost 1,000 dollars per month.

After Blythe bought Drax a \$20 bow tie, she decided to pull her Singer sewing machine out of storage and make bow ties for her family and friends. "I can trace the amount of sewing that I currently do back to my home economics

class in middle school," Blythe says. She posted the bows on her personal Facebook page, and immediately, people wanted to order them. That's how For the Love of Drax, LLC in Appleton, Wis., was born.

Learning from YouTube, Blythe makes double-layered bows, bandanas, neckties, wristlet lanyards, coin pouches and reversible coffee cozies. Each month, she donates 10 percent of her profits and a gift basket to shelters and rescues like JR'S Pups-N-Stuff, the Wisconsin Humane Society and Off the Chain. "I've been saving tiny fabric pieces and putting them into bags until they're full enough that I can make kennel cots," she says. "They're a very flat pillow that keeps shelter dogs from having to sleep on cold concrete floors."



When the coronavirus pandemic flatlined the economy, Blythe temporarily stopped making designer accessories. She started stitching together double-layer cotton masks with three pleats. "I've made nearly 500 masks by myself," she says. "I've gone through over two football fields of elastic. All I have left is a fluorescent beading cord. But it's elastic and stretchy, so it works."

Because there are people who are laid off right now and frontline workers who barely make minimum wage, Blythe decided on pay-what-you-can pricing. "If you can't pay me at all—which has happened in many circumstances—I don't care," she says. She's had a couple of people who've donated money or fabric and said, "Use this to cover someone else who can't pay."

While she's slipping 25 percent off coupons in people's mask packages, she says that making them goes back to everybody doing any good that they can. When the pandemic passes, she hopes customers will use their coupons, so she can build back up her income and begin donating to nonprofits again. "My 10 percent and the gift basket may not add up to a whole ton, but if everybody comes together, we can make a difference for homeless dogs."

Bark N' Scratch Outpost

After Carrie Marble fed her six-month-old Bichon named Snowbelle a Puppy Pack with brand-name foods, she began chewing holes in her coat. She also suffered from anal sack problems and debilitating food allergies. Snowbelle's vet suggested euthanasia.



"I couldn't accept that, so I set out to find the right diet for Snowbelle," Marble says. "During my experimenting, I found out that the surgery was completely unnecessary." All she had to do was find higher-quality food without corn, wheat or soy and by-product meals made from indistinguishable meats and other body parts.

But Marble couldn't find human-grade meat with living foods like fruits and vegetables in the Milwaukee area. So in 2006 she opened the Bark N' Scratch Outpost (BNSO). "From that day forward Michael, my husband, nine employees and I have worked day and night to help educate pet owners on how to keep their furry friends healthy," she says. "We only resell products and don't manufacture anything. Milwaukee has many local small companies making treats, and we support them. There's Maxx's Munchery, Fresh is Best, Auntie Jennie's Barkery and Stella & Chewy's."

Despite the coronavirus pandemic battering the global economy, Marble is connecting with many new pet owners by phone, email or text about nutrition. With so much unknown about the virus, she decided to do curbside pick up and delivery. "When we started curbside, we had resistance. A few customers were dismissive and rude," she admits. Marble says that curbside pickup offers a middle ground. It allows for both pet parents and staff to stay as safe as possible during the COVID-19 outbreak. It also fights another type of contagion: panicky behavior—which is highly infectious.

Marble spot cleans her delivery vehicle throughout the week. "Once a week, I remove all the mats and scrub them with Thieves Household Cleaner from Young Living," she says. "Our employees are also wearing face coverings, washing their hands often, using hand sanitizer, cleaning their work stations, diffusing essential oils to clean the air and social distancing."

As the country picks up steam, the BNSO has reopened its doors. Marble is encouraging customers to wear face masks. She's also installed a sneeze guard at her registers. "It took a couple of days with drying time to paint it. Michael and his friend Ken did an excellent job making sure it blends with the store's decor."

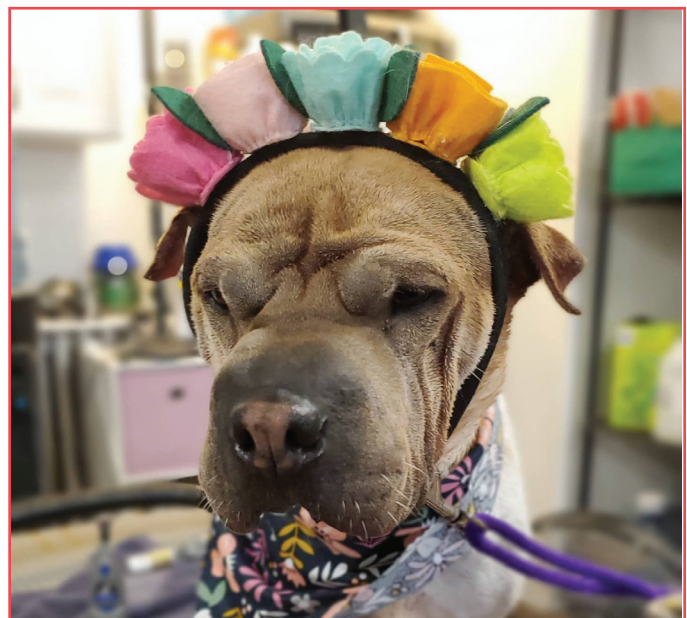
Fancy Pants Pet Salon

At 23, Erin Hennen started working as a dog handler for Central Bark Doggy Day Care in downtown Milwaukee. Within a few months, she adopted Anakin, a yellow Lab mix. Then she took home a little snaggle-toothed dog named Clancy. He was her soul mate and constant companion. "My Clancy Fancy Pants helped me through some of the best and worst times in my life, including standing next to me when I got married and helping me bring home my daughter," she says.

Fancy Pants Pet Salon (FPPS) in Wauwatosa, Wis. is named after that black and tan puppy. As stay-at-home orders went into effect, the mother of two learned that she had breast cancer. She scraped together enough money to pay her four employees. But she couldn't pay herself or any of FPPS's bills. "I applied and received the PPP loan and have since been able to put my employees back on payroll and catch up on all the bills," she says.

While she's been getting a lot of phone calls and messages, she's only seen a slight uptick in retail sales. She sells locally-made dog and cat food, treats and toys. "We also have shampoo and other grooming items, as well as gifts like dog tags, candles, collars and leashes," she says. "Because I can only sell retail and I have two small children at home, I come in a few afternoons a week and Saturday mornings until about 1 p.m." She only allows one customer at a time.

Hennen and her staff are sanitizing the door and the credit card machine between each customer. "When we're allowed to open back up for grooming, I'll have a crate in



the retail area that people can put their dogs into. Once they've left, I'll retrieve them, so there's no human contact," she says. "We're also asking customers to keep their dog's collar and leash. We'll bring them back on our own slip leads."

As COVID-19 squeezed her small business, Hennen began doing curbside pick up and deliveries. She says that there hasn't been a ton of interest, but she'll continue the service after the country bounces back from the virus. Hennen also started a YouTube channel to demystify grooming and explain to the general public what tools she uses and how they can use them safely at home.

"For dogs to enjoy grooming, we need to have owners who are willing to work with their pets at home," she says. "The dogs who are routinely brushed are better for us and show far less stress and anxiety."

As she battles cancer and the coronavirus fallout, Hennen says that the outpouring of love she's received has been overwhelming. "Cards, sidewalk art and pictures of clients' pups on Facebook; it's been wonderful," she says. "When I completely open back up, I'm going to be slower and tired, but I'm still going to be here. Nothing is going to keep me from my friends and your dogs because I love them."

Awesome Paws Academy

Eighteen years ago, Julie Westphal launched Awesome Paws Academy in Racine, Wis. A veterinary tech and Level 2 fear-free trainer, she helps dog owners who've home-based problems but can't attend physical classes.

"My fear-free program allows for problem-solving and builds trust," Westphal says. Sherlock, for example, was surrendered to Hudson's Halfway Home in Decatur, Ill. by his breeder. He was born with a cleft palate and had to be bottle-fed every two hours. Not socialized around his mother or siblings, he snapped at fosters' fingers and hands. "They sent him up to me, and I fell in love with

him. I modified all of those issues early on," she says. Westphal also has two Dobermans, Argos and Psyche.

As small businesses evaporate because of the pandemic, Westphal has taken hers online. She sells personalized snuffle mats, balls and fleece tug ropes. She says that her out-of-state orders have skyrocketed. On Mondays, she ships them in flat-rate priority boxes through the United States Postal Service. After prepaying with Venmo, PayPal or Square, locals can pick up their enrichment toys from her porch box. "When I drop them off, there's usually a no-contact dropbox hanging somewhere," she says.

While she's shelved her daycare services, her Lodge and Learn program is in full swing. She only takes two dogs at a time because she wants them to be immersed in a home environment with manners and life skills. Westphal also uses Skype and Zoom for 15 to 20-minute virtual lessons on tricks, tracking and nose work. "With behavior modification, I have an initial phone consultation," she says. "There's no charge."



Bay View Bark:

Proudly Serving Each Bark 6 Feet Apart

The first week of March, we here at Bay View Bark were busy! We were full for day care most days and almost full for boarding. We were training new staff and covering shifts 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. We were living our best life—playing endless fetch games, getting lots of cuddles and teaching canine obedience for hours a day. Then concerns of the pandemic started overwhelming the news. Reports of cases in Madison and Milwaukee changed everything almost overnight. Boarding reservations were cancelled as travel plans evaporated and two out of three day care customers pulled their dogs off the schedule as they were suddenly working from home. We quickly introduced social distancing in the lobby for customers and throughout the building for staff. We added more into our already robust cleaning routines to cover those high-touch areas again and again throughout the day. We reached out to family and staff to have masks made for all employees. We listened to concerns of customers and staff and sought out the best information available to guide our decisions. We kept our customers and staff up to date with new information and changed our procedures as the pandemic evolved.

When the Safer at Home order was announced and kennels were classified as essential, we decided to keep things running on a small scale for who needed us and could support us. Our goal was to keep the daily routine consistent for the dogs in our care and to be the one thing in their worlds that didn't just change. Unfortunately, staff hours had to be reduced to cope with the lower attendance. To keep things true to form for the dogs, manager schedules had to be modified to cover the roles they would normally oversee. We hoped

to stick it out and be here with open arms and liver snaps when things started to change for the better. With that decision came others like curbside dropoff and pickup for doggy daycare and boarding clients was instituted. Staff were wearing gloves and masks to carefully get dogs from their parents' cars and into the building or vice versa. Numbered parking spots line the front of the building, and clients check out and get behavior updates over the phone. Leashes are sprayed with disinfectant, lunch containers brought from home and boarding supplies are all wiped down with disinfectant too.

The month of April was tough going with low daycare attendance and many of the staff on partial unemployment, but things have started to look up. With patience and perseverance, we held on long enough for the daycare numbers to begin to grow again. Clients are grateful for the changes we have made and feel safe with the curbside service. As more people return to work and decide walks just are not enough for Fluffy anymore, we will be here. Or when previous clients decide to get a new puppy that needs socialization, we will happily welcome them back.



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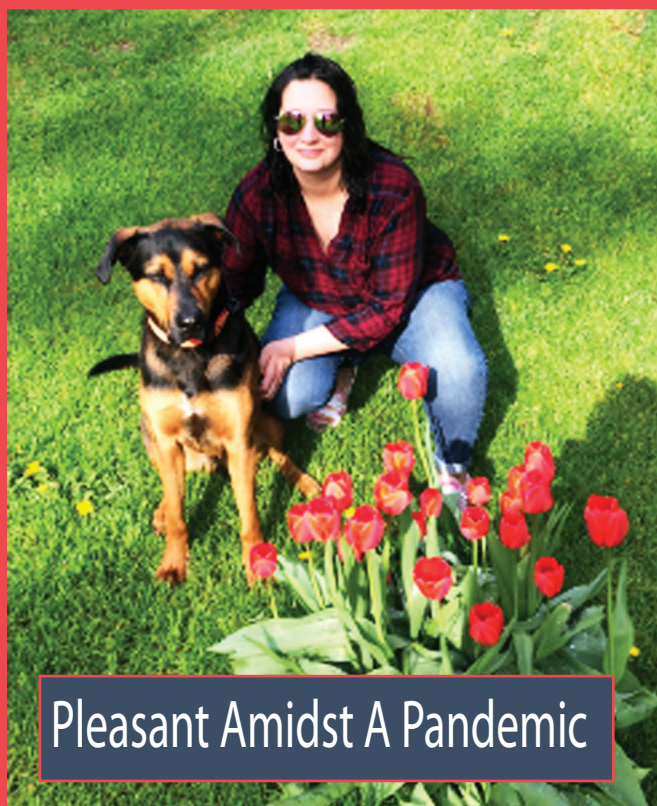
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This, coupled with receiving funding from the SBA PPP program, has really let us breathe a sigh of relief. I am so incredibly lucky to have great bankers that helped me through the process and be one of the few businesses that received this funding. We are using this time with fewer clients to invest in ourselves—staff training, deep cleaning, maintenance work and upgrading the floors throughout the building so we can emerge stronger than ever.

Thank you to all of our generous customers that bought day care packs that they didn't really need, purchased gift certificates they never intended to use, left glowing and heartfelt reviews and continued to bring their dogs to Bay View Bark throughout this challenging time. Thank you for coming through for us so we can continue to be here for you.

SUBMITTED BY JULIA KAMINECKI,
PRESIDENT, BAY VIEW BARK LLC



Pleasant Amidst A Pandemic

Pleasant Valley Treats, LLC is a woman-owned business located in Washington County, Wis.

We specialize in single-ingredient freeze-dried treats for cats and dogs. All of our treats are locally sourced from the Fehring Family Farm in West Bend, and all of the animals are humanely raised without growth hormones and antibiotics.

During this COVID-19 pandemic, we felt an overwhelming sense of uncertainty. So we chose to kick it into high gear and started researching how to keep our customers safe.

In the beginning, there was little guidance for small businesses, so it was up to us to figure it out. With the help of other small business owners, we worked to increase our sanitary procedures, used more contactless payment methods and offered delivery and contactless farm pickup.

The need to network together to help one another has always been part of our mission statement.

We were able to donate 10 percent of our sales during March and April to Dachshund Friends in Deed.

We continue to support other local small businesses during this difficult time. Donna from 4 Paws in Action was able to provide us with masks that we are so thankful to have. We continue to stay positive and focus on the safety of our customers and look forward to the day where we can all get together at an event and catch up with our 4-legged pals in tow.

#Stay Safe

Pandemic Perseverance: Curbside Pickup & Delivery

BY PAULA MACIOLEK, COPY EDITOR

EarthWise Pet Supply & Grooming is a Madison-area store that offers all-natural pet food and treats, supplies and grooming services, including a self-serve dog wash.

In the days just before living with the coronavirus' effects, owners Jeff Clark and Tim Hagen saw their business volume increase "with daily sales 50 to 100 percent greater than our typical daily average," explains Clark. "Customers were stocking up knowing that a lockdown was coming."

Immediate changes were implemented to promote customer and staff safety. "During these early stages," Clark says, "it felt like we were constantly tweaking our process in order to keep up with recommendations." Curbside pickup and dropoff became the practice, and customers were not allowed in the grooming area.

Eventually, state restrictions for grooming services meant appointments had to be canceled. Their call back list contained over 400 people. Being a high-traffic area, the self-service dog wash was also closed.



Continued on page 37

K9 MarketPlace

For All Your Local Shopping Needs

Welcome to the 2020 K9 MARKETPLACE! We have revised our current platform to reflect the times. Inside this guide, you will find a list of local businesses making it work during the COVID-19 crisis. You will notice that they are offering services above and beyond their normal. Some are offering curbside pick-up, some delivery by car or mail, and some are still taking appointments. So please utilize this guide and help local businesses survive during this time of uncertainty. They appreciate and need your support!



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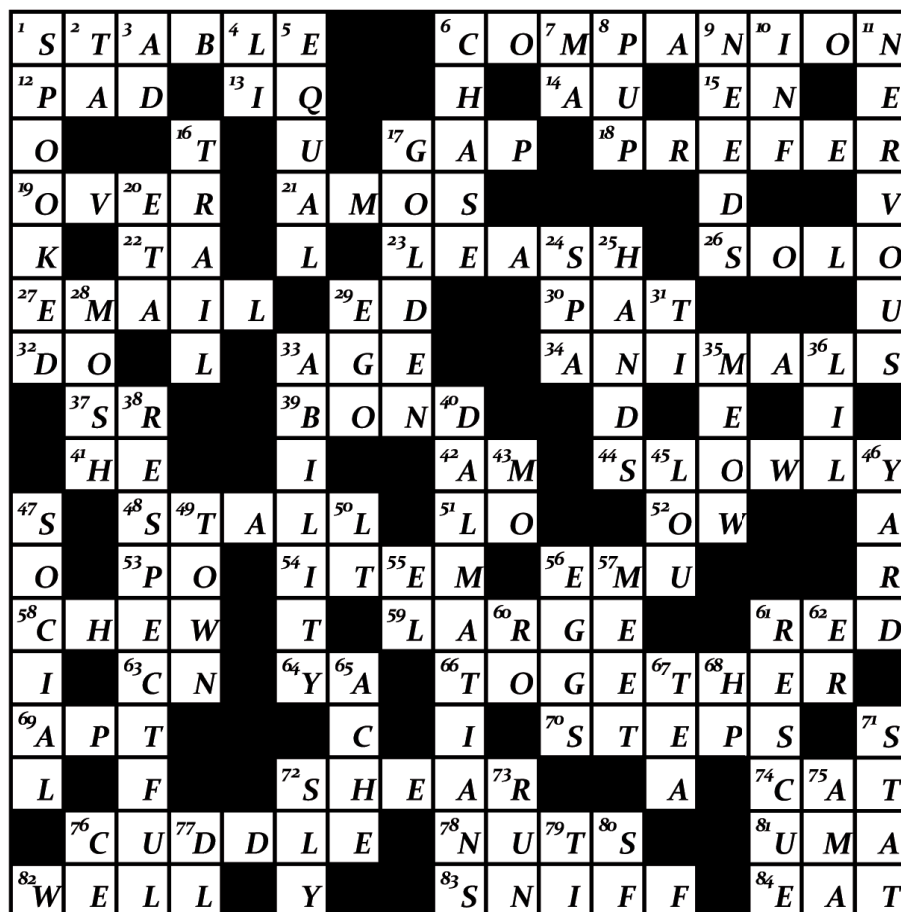


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CANINE IQ



Canine Smarts: How Does Your Dog Stack Up?

BY JESSICA PAIRRETT, COPY EDITOR

Who among us doesn't think our precious pups are smart? Well, okay, maybe not all of us do. While our dogs are smart in their own ways, not every pooch out there is born to earn an A on every task he or she is asked to do. But some dogs are simply smarter, right?

There's no cut-and-dry answer to that. In looking at a dog's intellect, we need to take a step back and consider just how is a dog's intelligence determined. Is it by the number of tricks he does or the number of words he knows? What about if your dog is savvy out on the agility course? That's not a feat all dogs are built to master. Then there are dog breeds we may consider highly intelligent war heroes, those who put their lives on the line and display bravery as they sniff out dangerous battlefields. And we cannot forget to include how well dogs can pick up on our emotions, often referred to in the human workplace as emotional intelligence. Let's take a look at how dogs have varying degrees of intellectual and emotional intelligence.

Intelligence by Breed

So who is the expert on this issue? One of the places we often turn to is the American Kennel Club (AKC). As one of the authorities on all things dog, would it surprise you to learn that the AKC currently does not have a list of so-called smart breeds? Wisely, the AKC takes the stance that dogs are individuals, and to answer the intelligence ques-

tion, we need to look at breeds and how they are classified. For example, working breeds have instincts and natural abilities that allow them to quickly perform jobs while other breeds are highly driven to please their people.

In short, the AKC views a dog's intelligence based on breed, training and natural traits. Clear as mud, right? We can thankfully refer to the work of famed canine psychologist Stanley Coren, who had once educated us about different types of intelligence (see sidebar). He has provided us with one metric—working intelligence—with which to compare our dog's smarts to others.

In Coren's book "The Intelligence of Dogs," he took a dive into the working intelligence of dog breeds. His research included lengthy surveys from about 200 dog obedience judges. Numerous breeds were rated on how well they obeyed commands and how quickly they learned new tricks. Those deemed the brightest breeds were the dogs that could obey a command 95 percent of the time and learn a command in five or fewer tries. And then, ta-da! The 10 reportedly smartest dog breeds list was born.

Top 10 in Working Intelligence

1) **BORDER COLLIE:** The quintessential agility dog, Border Collies are full of energy and smarts. Also recognized as a herding dog, this breed is a true workaholic and an athlete who also loves to cuddle with its people.

You might be familiar with the famous Chaser, a Border Collie who knew more than 1,000 words. Chaser's person, John Pilley, trained her to learn and retain words much greater than "ball" and "toy," said Karen B. London, PhD, a certified applied animal behaviorist and certified professional dog trainer. Chaser could even distinguish between nouns and verbs! Pilley remained modest about Chaser's depth of knowledge, though. He maintained that other dogs could also learn just as Chaser did, that is, as long as other dogs were taught like Chaser: sometimes many hours a day and in a methodical and extensive manner that also included fun and play.

2) **POODLE:** How does this froufrou dog come in at second place? It's easy! The Poodle (all breed sizes) is a friendly, active breed with a reputation as one of the most trainable out there. Regular exercising and training are musts to keep their extremely intelligent brains busy and out of any sassy behaviors. For these reasons, Poodles also make great hunting buddies helping you track and retrieve.

3) **GERMAN SHEPHERD:** All hail the police (and military) hero! The list of these brave dogs in history is long. With a strong work ethic, they require a job to do so they can burn off energy. This is a loyal friend of the family and a wonderful guard dog. Their affection and intellect also serves them well in roles as guide dogs or in other forms of service to their humans.

4) **GOLDEN RETRIEVER:** The sweet, lovable Golden can have impeccable manners with help from your obedience training and socialization with other pups and people. Goldens love to be active, whether it's swimming, running, fetching, hunting or hiking with his family. You've likely heard of Goldens doing search-and-rescue or other service work.

5) **DOBERMAN PINSCHER:** Hailing from Germany, these brave dogs are proven guards. But their working intelligence also makes them ideal therapy, rescue, military and police dogs. The Dobie's strength, speed and endurance has also led to their solid reputation as protectors.

6) **SHETLAND SHEEPDOG:** Having intelligence with a sense of humor, Shelties have an abundance of energy that's made for a long history of herding and keeping watch over its flock and family. They also are very affectionate and

What Type of Intelligence Best Fits My Dog?

• **Working intelligence:** How well does my dog follow orders?

• **Adaptive intelligence:** How does my dog figure stuff out?

• **Instinctive intelligence:** What type of innate talent does my dog have?

• **Spatial intelligence:** What does my dog learn about stuff in his environment?

• **Kinesthetic intelligence:** How does my dog use her body skillfully like in obedience or agility?

• **Intrapersonal intelligence:** What does my dog know about her capabilities like if the sofa is too high to jump up on?

• **Interpersonal intelligence:** What social skills does my dog use to communicate?

Sidebar information obtained from the "Business Insider."

playful, enjoying playtime with children and learning new tricks.

7) **LABRADOR RETRIEVER:** There's a reason Labs have topped the list of lovable dogs. If you have one in your home, you know their affectionate, playful natures are top Lab qualities. The breed is also an active one that makes for a great running companion. Being gentle, people-pleasing and easy to train also make the breed ideal for search and rescue and other service work.

8) **PAPILLON:** The smallest breed on the list is the butterfly dog, nicknamed for their unique ear shape. These intelligent dogs are as beautiful as they are happy and friendly. While small in stature, the Papillon is fast and quite the little athlete up for whatever training you're ready to offer.

9) **ROTTWEILER:** Solidly built, Rotties have made excellent working dogs since their Germany origins. This herding breed also falls into the military and police dog bucket. Rotties, devoted companions that they are, are great service and therapy dogs. And they take on the obedience circuit, too!

10) **AUSTRALIAN CATTLE DOG:** This working dog of Blue Heeler origin is full of energy—physical and mental! ACD parents should have energy to expend as this breed needs to work, whether it's in agility,

herding, tracking or general obedience.

So, there you have it: the top 10 smartest breeds as measured by working intelligence. But don't forget: Breed isn't the only factor influencing intelligence. You also have to consider their personality traits and the amount and type of training you've done together.

My Dog Didn't Make the List!

Worried your dog's smarts might not be up to par? Don't be! First, remember that this data was gathered from obedience judges, which could have been subjective. Ever had a bad experience with a certain breed of dog? Think of your bias (good or bad) around that particular breed, and recognize that is your opinion. And that's perfectly okay!

But if you want to bond with your dog while upping their working intelligence, Petfinder.com offers some great tips.



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Intelligence in Many Forms

We've talked a lot about a dog's working intelligence. But what if one of these dog breeds isn't for you? Remember that all dogs are individuals and there are so many kinds of intelligence that can be paired with your dog's style. Find the one that best suits her or him. After all, the best kind of dog is the one perfectly fitting for your lifestyle.

I remember how I once compared my now-senior dog's intelligence to that of his prior pack-mate's. Buddy was a rule-breaker, not a rule-follower, and truly would not have ranked high on working intelligence. Lucky, however, ranks way up there in

interpersonal intelligence. His communication skills often amaze me, including his many appropriately timed sighs (huffs)—even when I don't think he's listening! Lucky's other pack member, Taco, ranks up there in adaptive intelligence. He's a sneaky one for sure!

No matter the breed of dog we keep, we should all take the time to figure out our dog's true intellect. Find out what makes your dog happy and feed that. Let them explore their interests, said London. And as Pilley believed, you'll find better communication—and happiness—with your dog because of it.

First, remember that all dogs are trainable. Find what motivates him and watch him excel. Second, make sure to use positive reinforcements whether that includes food, lots of pets, a short game of fetch, bubbles to pop or another activity that is super motivating.

Build your dog's intelligence through interactive games, sports and agility, food puzzles or snuffle mats. Remember that motivation works wonders. Remember that smarter breeds require more of something (stimulation, activity or attention) that keeps their minds sharp and their bodies physically active, according to Petfinder.com. Bond through regular walks, other exercise and play sessions and behavior training.

Finally, make sure that no matter what you do, get up and interact with your dog. Just as a child learns and grows as their mom or dad spends quality time with them, so dogs do with you. And besides, do you really need a specific reason to spend time with your furry companions?

What do you think?
 What type of intelligence does your dog show?
 Are we missing a type of intelligence your dog displays?
 Let us know at our Facebook page!



How Animal Shelters are Coping During the Pandemic

BY CHERESE COBB, FREELANCER

Local animal shelters have been transformed by adoption booms and plummeting pet populations. But be sure of this: they'll never run out of animals in need.

Few shelters are empty. The Wisconsin Humane Society (WHS) in Milwaukee, Wis., has 250 adoptable animals, though more than 80 percent are in foster homes.

The heartening news is that Wisconsinites have stepped up by the thousands to adopt, foster and make masks as social distancing combined with skeleton staffing has closed shelters to the public and sent adoptions online.

"On March 15, we asked for the public's help to clear our shelters. Three hundred and nineteen animals went to foster or adoptive homes that week," says Angela Speed, vice president of communications at WHS. "The community support was awesome and humbling—we couldn't be more grateful."

The WHS's Milwaukee and Green Bay campuses are open for adoptions by appointment. "We're doing foster-facilitated adoptions and limiting our intake to emergencies. But we recognize that transport intake can be as much of an emergency as a surrender from a family who's losing their home or an injured stray," Speed says. "When an overcrowded shelter must choose between transporting animals to us or euthanizing for space, that's an emergency."

On March 13, the WHS paused all out-of-state transports. They make social distancing difficult for staff and volunteers. "Transported animals need physical space as well as many interactions with our limited staff," she says, "further eroding social distancing and limiting our ability to prepare for whatever challenges arise next."

Catie Koss runs Diamond Dog Rescue LLC (DDR), in Madison, Wis. The foster-based rescue doesn't have an actual building, but it's found homes for 1,200 dogs. "We still pull from other states as where we pull from is very rural and hasn't seen many, if any, cases," Koss says. "If we stopped doing intakes right now, 54 animals would have likely been killed. So we operate under the assumption that we're all carrying the virus without knowing it."

"We haven't done our normal intakes where we bring the dogs to a location, process paperwork and then fosters pick them up," Koss says. "Instead, I've made the drive to each foster's home." Because she's a home healthcare professional, Koss is cautious while she's on the road. She wears a mask for pick ups or drop offs, and fosters leave out sanitized crates. Once they bring their dogs inside, they bathe them, change clothes and sanitize the crate again. "I've created a mobile bin in the back of my truck

to sort paperwork and keep everything as clean and sanitary as possible," she says.

"We've always done most of our home visits virtually because many of our adopters travel for several hours. You can see anything you need to see around the home and still get a great feel for the people you're speaking with." DDR's adoptions take place outside with no human-to-human contact. When animals change hands, they're given a bath in case their fur carries coronavirus. The organization also sends adoption paperwork electronically. And adopters can submit payment through PayPal or the rescue's website.

Dane County Humane Society (DCHS) only has one adoptable animal: a 20-year-old chestnut-colored gelding named Big Boy. It has suspended its volunteer program. "That's an extra 900 people that would have been in the shelter every week," says Amy Good, director of development and marketing at DCHS. "Normally, we have nearly a hundred employees on a given shift." Its reduced crew of 20 is stretched thin because of the spring wildlife baby boom.

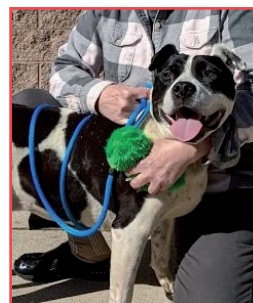
Good currently works from home. "We've had some interruptions on Zoom because my dogs decided to play fight, or of course, my cat walked across the keyboard," she says. Though she's not working at the shelter every day, she's surrounded by animals that have been helped by it. "That's a great way to keep grounded," she says.

Unfortunately, DCHS is starting to see animals come in from people who have been hospitalized with COVID-19. "We've had one person do an outright surrender, but we're holding on to the other animals. One was already returned," she says. "If you're sick and you need this particular program, normally we'd ask for fees. But our goal is to reunite pets with their families, and we don't want money to be a barrier to that."

Good urges community members to have a disaster preparedness plan for their pets. "If your animal never needs to come to our shelter and can stay with a family member or friend, that's the ideal situation," she says. You should keep your animal's vaccine record and medicine list on hand. Stock up extra food and supplies that can last at least two weeks. And your pet should have proper identification such as a collar with an ID tag and a phone number.

As the country reopens bit by bit, there's a great fear that owner surrenders will skyrocket. But returning to work means people who've lost their jobs during lockdown can pay for pet food and supplies.

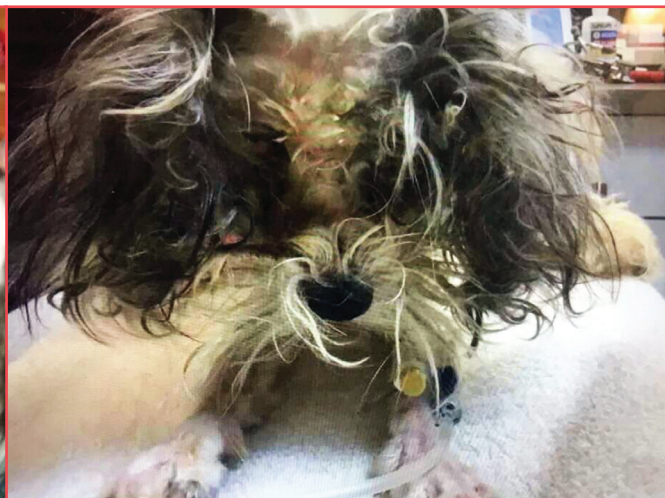
Because people are sheltering in place, they're going to deeply bond with their pets. "Some people who reached out to us to adopt are working from home, but they thought this was the perfect time to transition a new animal in," Good says. "If animals do come back to us, we'll know more about them when we adopt them out to their next families, but for the most part, these adoptions will stick."



OFF-THE-LEASH



with CANINE ANGELS FOR HEAVEN



Diane and Joe Ponzo have been rescuing medically-challenged seniors and hospice dogs since July 13, 1990. After rescuing their first pug angel, Tiger Joe, they decided to turn their passion into an organization called Canine Angels for Heaven on August 1, 2017. "We realized way back in 1990 that there were not enough people that wanted to take in medically challenged and hospice dogs," says

Diane. "People were just letting them go to die by themselves. Everyone wanted the puppies or younger dogs, but no one wanted the seniors, medically challenged seniors or hospice dogs." Thus, their passion to help this group of dogs was born.

What is Pet Hospice? It is caring for an end of life Canine Angel. For example, a dog is diagnosed with cancer, his/her family does

not want to watch them decline, so they call us and relinquish their dog to us. We give this Canine Angel the best love, family and all necessary medical care. This Canine Angel will be with us until they go to heaven. They will die with dignity, love and support from us; never ever alone!

Canine Hospice entails giving all of the above, including all the medical care they need. We work with a couple of wonderful vets who help us out with this. Hospice Care means being with them 24/7, it means giving them all the attention they need, all the paw holding they need and all the fun they can handle. It means road trips, picnics, special dinners, meeting people, going for stroller rides, swimming and more. It means giving them their medicine on time, giving them love and giving them the time they need to deal with their illness; it means being with them until the end and never leaving them. Hospice means being up at night and being sleep-deprived when an Angel is not feeling well; it means rocking them in the rocking chair until they fall asleep; it means being with them at their best and at their worst.

What are the costs?

Costs are expensive. When a Canine Angel comes into our care, they go right to the vet to get checked out. We need to know exactly what is wrong and how we can give them the best life and best ending possible. A general vet visit can cost anywhere from \$100.00 to thousands of dollars depending on the problem. We ask questions like: Do they need surgery? Do they need a dental? Generally, they need medicine and that is expensive at any pharmacy. Sometimes the vet carries medications, and sometimes we have to get it at the general pharmacy. These Canine Angels will be on their medications until the very end. They all go to the vet for their medication checks, cancer checks, heart checks or whatever their illness is. They all get checked out according to the vet's recommendations.

What types of pets qualify for hospice?

Cancer, Congestive Heart Failure, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, Tumors, Kidney Failure, Liver Failure, Degenerative Disc Disease, Blind, Deaf, and anything else that we might come across. We also take in medically challenged pets such as ones with missing limbs or those who are not able to walk properly due to injury or disease.

Scooter-Roo came into our hospice because he was born with no front legs. This means he is medically challenged and a senior. When his human mama died, his family of 10 years did not want him. Scooter-Roo made the trip from Texas to come live with us. Daisy May, a 1-year-old little terrier mix came into our home on March 6, 2019. She came to us because she was supposed to die. She was beaten, abused, suffering from malnutrition and was dehydrated. It was one of the worst cases of abuse Chicago Animal Control had seen in years. On March 2, 2019, she was treated in the emergency room and stayed there until we received the call we could take her home. When we took over her care, they thought because of her malnutrition, she was going to have organ failure and die. If she did survive, she certainly would never walk. Well, with lots of love, rehabilitation and care from us and two of our wonderful volunteers, mother/daughter team Savanna and Melissa Volck, Daisy May survived. She can now walk, run, bark and have fun. Because she was beaten so badly on

her head, she will always have short-term memory loss and vision loss, but that does not stop this fighter. She made a miraculous recovery and was adopted by the family who volunteers with us and who was instrumental in her recovery.

We have taken in medically challenged and hospice senior dogs from as far away as Kuwait. We have a medically challenged dog from Kuwait named Flately. He was brought to the meat market in Kuwait, and his angel was there to save him. They then called us and a few weeks later Flately was brought to the United States to receive proper medical care for degenerative disc disease.

What to expect...

Most vets will tell the human parents their dog has a terminal condition or their dog has a problem that incurable or insolvable. Sometimes the human parents will tell the vet they are unable or unwilling to deal with it, and when the vet tells them their options, one option is to give them our card or call us. Sometimes the people will go home and think about things and then call us. Most rescues know about us and will also call us.

How many Angels can be cared for at one time?

My husband, Joe, works from home. He is gone four to five hours per week. I work for a local hospital system and work four days per week. We can take care of several Canine Angels. We have a couple of great volunteers that help us. They love the Canine Angels and care for them, so we can do things that need to get done around the house. They rock and love these Canine Angels as if they were their very own. Without our wonderful volunteers, this task would be more difficult, but they help us ensure our Canine Angels are never alone.

Can previous owners visit their dogs?

Once a Canine Angel is relinquished into our care, most people cannot drop off their dog fast enough and never look back. Most do not care and 99.5 percent NEVER want to know what is happening again. A couple of times, a request has come through for updates. We will update previous owners for a while just so the previous owner knows our new Canine Angel is adjusting well.

We have a large fenced-in area for the dogs with a tent that has a heater in it. The Canine Angels can go potty in this heated tent when it is cold, snowy or there is nasty weather. It heats up to about 75 degrees. We have a therapy pool in our basement that is 88 degrees. Each dog has his or her own life jacket and, if needed, a head rest. We do go in the pool with them.

There were and still are so many senior dogs, medically challenged dogs and hospice dogs that are alone in shelters. They are alone and dying by themselves with no one to love them or care for them. They sit there when people come looking for their new younger dog. The poor dog is sad, lonely and feels unloved and sometimes unworthy of love.

What we do is a 24/7 labor of love. We do not go on vacations. If we go out, it might be for a couple of hours, but then we need to get back home because the angels need us. We do not want to miss medicine times, insulin times for diabetic dogs or therapy times.

THE HYDRANT

Dog Days During Covid-19

BY MICHELLE SEROCKI, FREELANCER

What a strange time we're living in. Imagine how strange your pets must think it is too. They feel your unsettled energy. If their routine has been upended, they're likely feeling unsettled too. It's been a long end to winter with even more isolation than our Wisconsin hibernation typically includes. Spring brings new hope with rising temperatures, buds sprouting and the pandemic on the decline. Experts say that fresh air is crucial to sustain good mental health, and this applies to our dogs as well. But with people flocking to limited public outdoor outlets, it can seem like there's nowhere safe to go with your favorite Fido.

Pit Bull Advocates of America (PBAOA) has Southeastern Wisconsin's only private dog park open year-round. In exchange for a modest donation, the Dog Days program allows pet parents the opportunity to reserve over an acre of fenced-in yard space

for their dog to play, explore and relax in a completely private and safe environment. All dogs benefit from a change in scenery, new smells and fun exploration. Relax and bond with your dog, play fetch, work on training or tackle the agility course. Watch your dog light up and be free at the Rescue Retreat.

When the Rescue Retreat became a reality for PBAOA in 2016, they had no idea it held so many unknown possibilities. The nonprofit was ultra-focused on programs they were already running and excited to have the new location to expand in. As volunteers sat in the breathtaking and secure space watching their rescue dogs run freely, explore vigorously and relax effortlessly, the concept of Dog Days was born. A vision for dogs that had nowhere to freely and safely explore the world... until now. A vision of dog play dates and parties. A vision of dogs doing what they should be free to do best. Just. Be. Dogs.

There are no unknown humans or animals to be concerned with during your scheduled play time. It's your choice if anyone joins you and who those people and/or pets will be. The folks at the Rescue Retreat have a special spot in their hearts for reactive rovers, and Dog Days is an ideal offering for animals that can't be around other dogs and/or people. No judgement. No scrutiny. All 30-minute play times must be scheduled. No walk-ins will be accommodated. All breeds are always welcome.

Your private play session will not involve any unfamiliar dogs or people. There are no volunteers present. You will need to monitor your own scheduled play time. This means you must arrive and leave on time. Others are relying on you to make this safe for their dogs.

Scheduled play time is always in 30-minute increments. If you arrive 15 minutes late for a 30-minute play session, you cannot stay an extra 15 minutes. Play sessions are scheduled and are often booked up. Please be on time, and be kind to others using this service for their dogs by leaving at your scheduled end time. If you arrive early and there's still another dog playing, you must stay in your car with your dog until they exit the yard and are back in their car. As mentioned, many of the dogs that have used the private park for years do so because they can't be around other dogs and/or humans. It's so important that players are respectful of other players' limitations and challenges.

During the pandemic, the folks at the Rescue Retreat have taken extra precautions to remain open while not contributing to the spread of COVID-19. We have hand sanitizer at the gate and Clorox wipes onsite. We encourage all players to wash their hands as soon as possible once they've left.

Treat yourself and your dog to some safe, socially distant outside time at the Rescue Retreat. You can find more information on the Dog Days program as well as the schedule on the PBAOA website: <https://pitbulladvocates.org/owner-support/dog-days/>

Dog Day Play Sessions

At the PBAOA Rescue Retreat

Milwaukee's Only Private Dog Park

 PBAOA Dog Days provide a safe and structured place for pit bulls and their guardians to relax and have fun. Don't have a pit bull? NO PROBLEM! We welcome all dogs! No discrimination here!

 Play sessions allow reactive, anti-social dog friends to let loose and have fun in a private, safe place. No strange dogs or people will be around.

 Play fetch, work on training, let them RUN! Watch them light up and have FUN! All 30 minute play sessions are scheduled.

We are not able to take walk ins - you MUST schedule to reserve your time slot.

Visit our website to learn more and [book your appointment!](https://pitbulladvocates.org/owner-support/dog-days/)






LEARN MORE AT:
[PitbullAdvocates.org](https://pitbulladvocates.org)

FOLLOW US



Above & Beyond Essential

BY HEATHER GEHRKE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, EBHS

March 11, 2020, is a date I will always remember. As many national organizations temporarily or indefinitely suspended operations, I found myself wondering what was happening to our world. The next several days and weeks felt like months as our team at Elmbrook Humane Society tried to make sense of what COVID-19 meant for us as a business and all those we serve throughout our community.

Thankfully and rightfully, the State of Wisconsin deemed humane societies as an essential service. Like most businesses, we needed to find a way to operate and continue to serve both the animals and people in our community. We moved to an appointment-based operation, providing support by phone, email and virtual meetings and continued to respond to animal emergencies in our community. We are still continuing to adapt our services, programs and business operations to function safely while still being a community resource for animal needs.

Some critical services have been strongly encouraged to be placed on hold. These are services I believe our industry would never before have imagined halting. For example, given it is next to impossible to achieve the recommended social distancing, spay and neuter services have stopped except for emergencies. Transport has been discouraged due to the amount of contact between staff and volunteers facilitating transport and the potential of spreading COVID-19 amongst states. With both services being essential to saving lives, it is exciting to share that work is being done to create guidelines to resume both.

Visits to veterinarians have moved to curbside with your pet being separated from you. From a human health perspective, we now have to think about how to support our pets through this. Animal welfare is as much about connecting with people and providing education as it is caring and advocating for animals. All community outreach and special events typically done in-person or in group settings have been affected. Spring camps for youth, READ to Me sessions and humane education programs in schools, dog-related training and seminars have had to be canceled. Galas, run/walks, bowl-a-thons and more have had to be rescheduled or canceled. Everyday life as we know it has changed, but there are many good things happening.

We have seen increased community involvement for fostering and adopting. Supporters have been making sure we have the supplies needed to remain safe and healthy to be able to continue providing the best care possible for animals in need. We have witnessed people supporting virtual fundraising and programming. We have learned that operating by appointment allows us to provide more personalized service and develop even stronger relationships with foster volunteers, adopters and our donors. We have learned new ways in which kind, compassionate individuals can continue to provide support to not only Elmbrook Humane Society but to many non-profit organizations.

The world of animal welfare has changed and inevitably will continue to change. COVID-19 has presented many challenges, but it has also caused our industry to pause and rethink how we serve and care for animals and people. As a result, in the weeks and months to come, our organization, along with other humane societies and rescue groups, will be stronger through innovation and working together.

As the saying goes, we are all in this together!

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How Smart is Your Cat?

BY CHERESE COBB, FREELANCER

Your cat is clever, perhaps even crafty, but how smart is she? According to scientists, it's not your imagination. While your dog might have a higher social IQ than your cat, she can solve harder cognitive problems, if she feels like it.

Her brain is only 2 inches long, weighs as much as a pair of dice and makes up about 0.9 percent of her body mass. While it's smaller than your dog's, its structure and surface folding is 90 percent like yours. Your cerebral cortex, the region of your brain that controls thinking and problem-solving, contains 21 to 26 billion neurons or nerve cells. Your cat has 300 million neurons while your dog only has 160 million.

Basically, your cat is as smart as an 18-month-old child. She can experience primary emotions such as happiness, anger and fear. "We don't think cats can experience secondary emotions like forgiveness or vengeance," says Dr. Susan Krebsbach, owner of Creature Counseling in Oregon, Wis. "How many times have you heard, 'He urinated outside of the litter box because he was mad at me because I was gone for the weekend?'"

While your cat can't appreciate all the colors you do, she has more nerve cells in the visual areas of her brain than humans and most other mammals. That's why she zooms across the house chasing a speck of dust that you can't even see.

But her world isn't black and white. "Because cats are more active in the early morning and the late evening when light levels are low, their retinas contain eight times more rods than humans," Krebsbach says. "So cats are more sensitive to light in the blue-violet and yellow-green range."

Besides having top-notch vision, your cat has object permanence, an understanding that things exist even when she can't see, hear, touch or smell them. That is, out of sight doesn't mean out of mind.

Her short-term memory spans about 16 hours. In a laboratory setting (mad scientist optional), she can probably solve food puzzles from memory. But Rubik's cubes or sudoku are out of the question. While her long-term memory is difficult to gauge, it's probably impeccable, which you already know if your fur baby bops you in the head at 6 a.m. She has an internal clock and

seems to "know" when it's time for things to start happening. She's good at picking up on other regular indicators of the time, like bird songs and sunset. No, she can't read clocks. Change the time on them to see if it makes any difference. It won't.

If cats are so smart, why aren't there any drug, cadaver or explosives detective cats? "Well, remember, cats have a different skill set, but that doesn't make them less intelligent. As a matter of fact, we don't have any bomb-sniffing humans," Krebsbach says. Dogs come when they're called, but cats take a message and get back to you later.

Puzzle Toys

"During the daytime, cats are loving members of our families with scratches behind the ear and sleepy moments on our laps," says Frederik Lindskov, product developer at Northmate. "During the night, however, their instincts tell them to go hunting for mice...around the neighborhood. The greatest challenge for any cat owner is to make a home that reflects both sides of this double nature." Enter puzzle toys. They ease boredom, encourage mental stimulation and reduce destructive behaviors. Here are three of our favorites:

1. Northmate Catch Interactive Feeder

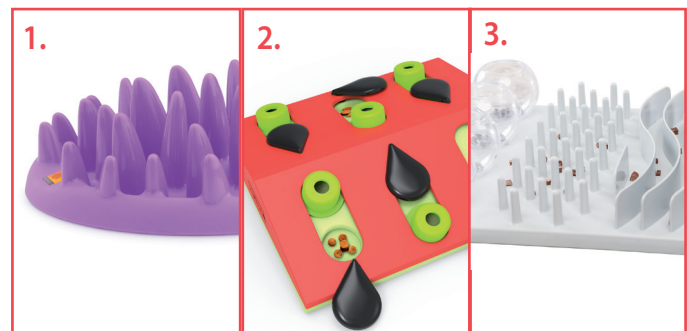
Designed to kickstart your kitty's hunting instincts, Catch by Northmate controls portion size, slows eating and prevents vomiting. Dishwasher safe and suitable for indoor and outdoor use, this specialized bowl is made of hard, phthalate-free plastic and has four anti-slip feet. Scatter wet or dry food across the feeder. Then your cat can push or grab it out from between its smoothly rounded spikes.

2. Nina Ottosson Melon Madness Puzzle & Play

Your curious cat will love Nina Ottosson's Melon Madness Puzzle & Play. Cats bat at the pegs and swivel the seeds to uncover six hidden treat compartments that hold up to a quarter cup of food. Each puzzle is made from food-safe materials and comes with a tips and tricks info sheet. With no removable parts, you'll also never have to worry about losing play pieces again.

3. Trixie 5-in-1 Cat Activity Center

Engage your smarty cat's five senses with Trixie's Activity Fun Board. Developed by cat expert Helena Dbalý, it has four transparent globes that can be filled with food for your cat to fish out. Its peg and alley centers allow her to MacGyver kibble around non-pointy pins and wavy walls. Its tongue center is best for liquid treats and has slits that prevent your cat from using her paws. Last but not least, its tunnel center is ideal for stalking and swatting hidden toys and treats.



MADDIE'S TIPS 4 KIDS



BY MANETTE KOHLER, DVM, FREELANCER

Hi friends! It's Maddie here with my best friend Bella, my sweet and adorable Golden Retriever puppy. I've been busy learning all sorts of things about dogs like how to interact with Bella so she feels safe and happy and learns to trust me. I want to share all of this with you!

Remember last time we chatted when I told you that dogs and people speak and communicate in different ways? And that there are many things people do that dogs might not understand that might make them feel stressed or worried? This is important because dogs that are worried or stressed are more likely to bite. I can't imagine Bella biting somebody, but Bella's vet told us that any dog can become scared or worried enough to bite, so it is our job to help them feel safe.

One of the most important things for everyone to learn, including kids, is how to greet a dog. We see dogs everywhere we go—on walks, at the park and even in some stores. I know I would feel really worried if a stranger came right up to me and reached out to grab my hand or hug me, so I can imagine how worried dogs might be when this happens to them.

When people say hi to each other, we face each other, we look each other in the eyes, and we may even lean forward and reach to shake hands or hug. But all of these things can make dogs feel worried. We might even bend down over the top of the dog if the dog is small, and that is scary too for the dog. So, how should we say hi to a dog? And when should we say hi to a dog?

First, I want to tell you about something that just happened yesterday. I was walking with my mom and Bella in a new neighborhood, and we passed a lady getting her mail from her mailbox. The lady commented on how cute Bella was and immediately got close and bent over Bella while reaching and patting her on the head and loudly saying, "Aren't you the cutest little thing," right in Bella's face. Bella tucked her tail low, put her ears back, lowered her head and ducked behind my mother with really big eyes. My mom didn't even have time to tell the lady how she'd like her to greet Bella. The lady had just rushed right in without asking. I knew that all of those body language changes meant that Bella was scared. The lady laughed, stood up and walked up her driveway.

My mom was a bit frustrated and said to me that the woman didn't even realize the negative experience she'd created for Bella. This made me feel worried that Bella would be afraid of other people now thinking they might rush up and get in her space and scare her, so I knew we would have to make sure that future greetings were polite and that people asked Bella's permission before saying hello and petting her. But how do we ask a dog's permission? I know that sounds strange, but it is really the most important part of greeting a dog.

Here is what a proper and polite greeting looks like:

- Person approaches calmly and quietly.
- Person asks the dog's owner if they can say hello to the dog.
- If the owner says yes, then the person waits for the dog's permission by standing quietly nearby, with their body sideways and looking at the dog's feet instead of right at their face and eyes, and wait for the dog to approach. If the dog stays away and doesn't approach the person, the dog doesn't wish to say hello, and we have to respect that and just walk away.
- If the dog does approach the person and the dog's body language is happy and relaxed, the person can calmly reach to pet and rub/scratch the dog on their side or chest or shoulder instead of reaching over the top of their head. Our vet says we should pet with just one hand and that a good test is to pet for 3 seconds and stop and see if the dog wishes to have more petting. Many dogs will nudge your hand or put themselves closer as a way to ask for more. Be sure to bend over next to the dog and not over the top. Better yet, if the dog is small, crouch down next to it so you seem less threatening. (Remember, a happy dog is loose, wiggly, with squinty eyes, relaxed ears and tail).

My mom also says it is very important to be quiet and calm so no talking loudly right in the dog's face or jumping about. It is also best to keep the interaction brief, and don't hug or kiss the dog. It is so important for parents to teach their kids how to properly greet a dog. Remember, if we scare the dog, the dog could bite. Practicing with a stuffed dog works really well.

Finally, is it okay to ask to pet every dog we see? The answer is no. We wouldn't want random people approaching and hugging us, right?

If you don't know the dog, it is best to walk on by. Just because they are cute and fuzzy and soft doesn't mean we get to touch and feel them. Some dogs are very afraid of strangers and/or kids, so it is always best to assume unfamiliar dogs need some space. If we know the person and dog or if the person is clearly encouraging interaction (e.g., maybe they're teaching their new puppy that seeing and meeting other people is safe and okay), then we can follow the rules above so that it is a good experience for that dog or puppy as well as for us.

Next time, we'll talk about more ways we can help our dogs to feel really safe and comfortable and the best ways to play with and spend time with our dog.

Note to parents: Use this story and the following resources to teach dog safety to your child and how to continue to foster trusting relationships between dogs and kids.

<https://drsophiayin.com/app/uploads/2017/08/How-to-Greet-a-Dog-Poster.pdf>
Doggonessafe.com
Livingwithkidsanddogs.com

If you'd like to read more about Maddie and Bella, Bella's First Checkup is available on Amazon, or you can contact Dr. Kohler for a signed copy by emailing her at helpinghanddvm@gmail.com.

QUESTIONS for Maddie can be emailed to maddiespettips@gmail.com

FETCH ME IF YOU CAN



Meet **Lilly**, a beautiful brindle girl who is move in ready, house and crate trained, knows basic commands and walks well on leash! She soaks up human attention, and her favorite thing to do is snuggle. Lilly prefers to be the only dog though she has shared her home with a feline friend. This little love bug is ready to leave shelter life and start a new life with a family of her own.

ELMBROOK
ebhs.org

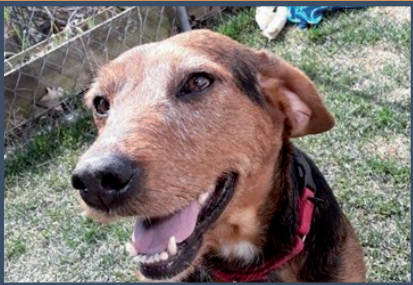


Mia loves glitter balls, comfy beds, warm blankets, cuddle time and peace and tranquility. Mia is not fond of other cats, hectic environments and a lot of change. Mia also loves her people, especially those who understand she needs a little time to trust and be comfortable. If your home and life is a good match for Mia, she may be the perfect match for you!



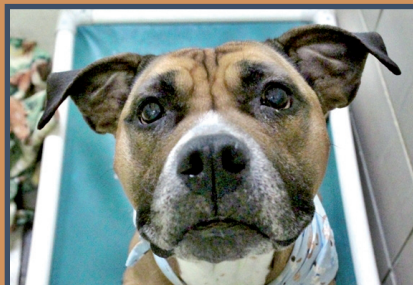
Meet **Denzel**! He is a simple guy looking for a home that has the following: a yummy meal everyday, a warm bed and a comfy place to look out the window at all the birds outside. When he gets extremely relaxed, he will slowly shut his eyes and fall asleep sitting up. He is such a handsome guy who needs a couple minutes to warm up to his new family members.

HS of Southern WI
petsgohome.org



Candie is a sweet but shy girl who would do best in a quieter home. She takes time warming up to new people but this 6 year old is eager to learn and loves pleasing her humans. Candie is crate trained and knows how to give paw, lie down, sit, touch and spin. Candie is very food motivated and loves Kong toys and treats!

HAWS
hawspets.org



Chance is a good 10-years-young man. He would do best in a home with adults or older children and is okay with cats! He loves to carry his favorite stuffed animal around **WHEREVER** he goes. Because of his age, he takes some joint supplements daily, but it doesn't slow him down. He is a sweet boy who would love to cuddle and snuggle with you all day long.



Handsome **Haim** is a gentle giant who is super smart and loves to meet people and give kisses. This 2 year old is really a big puppy, so we are recommending a home with adults and older kids. He likes to jump up to give hugs occasionally! He'll do best as the only pet in your home but definitely wants to be part of your family pack!



Moo Moo is my name and grumpy face is my game! I have lived with dogs and other cats in my previous home and enjoyed the presence of my furry siblings. Don't let my grumpy face fool you. I seem a little standoffish at first, but with a couple treats and a few good pets, I am quick to make friends! I love head scratches and hanging out next to people.

HS of Southern WI
petsgohome.org

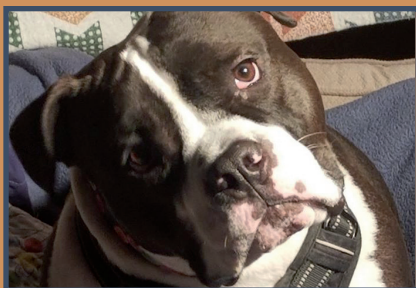


Amelia - Our favorite tripod Amelia is searching for an extra understanding home that gets that she carries some baggage. She would do well living with other dogs, however she guards resources, so no young children! An independent, happy-go-lucky pup, she enjoys sunbathing and snuggling up on the couch or just doing her own thing in her bed. Amelia also LOVES swimming!



Armani - Armani is looking for a home that appreciates his big head and goofy personality. Currently, Armani is looking for a home without other dogs. He loves all people and will take up ALL the space on your couch! Napping in the sun or in front of the heater – the warmer the better! He's a pro at fetch. He's into constant love and is perfectly happy wherever you are. Armani is a BIG fun-loving adult dog with a puppy personality.

Pit Bull Advocates Of America
pitbulladvocates.org



Johnny is quite the character and can really put the charm on. He loves to play ball and will become tired after 15 minutes of play. His learning ability is a little slower, but he does well when people match his training style.



Odin has been in rescue for a long time now -- 2 years. He is an amazing boy who is trained in basic and advanced obedience loves to play ball, and he especially likes the agility tunnel, weave poles and low hurdles. No young children or cats in the home, please.



Titus, who we often call Chief, knows 30 cues. His favorite toy is the ball. This smart boy will require someone with leadership skills. He has a history and deserves a home that will not give up. If there are children in his new family's home, they will need to be 10 and older.

MECCA'S Pit Bull Rescue
meccaspitbullrescue.com



I'm **Norman**. I will need my future home to provide me with structure and a good amount of exercise. So far, I have mastered the cues sit, down and shake. I use to live with a cat, a small dog and kids of all ages.



My name is **Polo**. I may be 10, but I am FULL of life! I would love to go to a home with kids of any age. I do need to be the only pet in the home because cats are just too much of a temptation to chase.



I'm **Clarence**! I'm an affectionate and tolerant guy who is quite fond of facial massages. I may need some time to adjust to a new home, but once I get comfortable, you'll see my fun and playful side.

Washington County Humane Society
wchspets.org



Bob is a familiar face at our shelter, and we would love more than anything to see this special guy live out his life in a forever home. There isn't a person that Bob doesn't get along with. This sweet and relaxed guy is waiting patiently for the perfect family to bring him home. This senior guy is FIV positive, but we are sure his cuteness will remind you that it's no big deal.



Eleanor is a sweet senior cat who loves to cuddle, is looking to find a forever home to live out her golden years. She would do well in a home with other cats too, making her a well-rounded companion. Because of a bout of pancreatitis, Eleanor will need to remain on a special diet. She has made her home here at the shelter for quite some time and we would love to see her curled up in the comfort of her own home!

Watertown Humane Society
whsadopt.org



Gorgeous, affectionate, and social, **Mama** is the total package! This green-eyed leading lady is just 3 years old and is looking for one thing to make her the happiest cat around: a family to call her own.

Wisconsin Humane Society
wihumane.org

The situation prompted some difficult decisions about staffing. "Since grooming is a significant portion of our business," Clark shares, "we knew we would be unable to support our employees through the duration of the Safer at Home order, and we made the difficult decision to furlough all seven of our employees. A very sad day for us all!" Employees received severance equaling one week's pay and help filing for unemployment benefits. Health insurance was covered for full-time staff.

EarthWise Pet remained open for business with curbside pickup of purchases, and (at the time) no customers were permitted inside the store. Hours were reduced, and the store was closed on Sundays. "We have had online ordering capabilities available to us for many months, but we never focused on it," and Clark and Hagen gave the website an upgrade making ordering online easier. Delivery became available within a six-mile radius of the store and free of charge for orders over \$20.

Like many other businesses trying to receive assistance from the Small Business Administration's newly created programs, EarthWise Pet's owners had to exercise a lot of patience and perseverance when applying. They finally were approved for funding and are able to bring all of their employees back to work.

At the end of April, grooming services were restarted as state-ordered restrictions were relaxed some. The store was barraged with phone calls from customers eager to schedule their appointments. At the time, their call back list contained 400 people! Two groomers were able to resume work, and they continue to shorten that call back list while respecting limitations such as needing to work in different rooms.

Staggering schedules allowed a third groomer to come back. A new platform for scheduling grooming was added.

K9-5 Daycare: Confronts & Converts Care with Courage

BY PAULA MACIOLEK, COPY EDITOR

Before the world was confronted with COVID-19, K9 to 5 Daycare next to the airport on the east side of Madison was a very busy place with lots of dogs of all sizes and breeds coming through their doors. Owners Kyrstin O'Brien and Michelle Hahn were building relationships daily with dogs and the people who love them.

Once the Safer at Home order took effect back in March, things changed abruptly. K9 to 5 was deemed an essential business and was able to remain open, but practices would have to change some.

Normally, clients would come inside the daycare to drop off or pick up their dogs. Enter the now-ubiquitous curbside service. "We have always offered curbside pickup and dropoff," says O'Brien, "but we are using our leashes to bring the dogs in and out. We come to the car and pop our leash on and, off we go."

Any information needing to be shared between staff and clients was best done over the phone, and O'Brien shared that this has been difficult for her and Hahn as it's cut off that personal contact that they enjoy. "We are barely able to have face-to-face conversations about their dog's day and any concerns we may have. We have always been a more 'mom and pop' business and love getting to know our clients."

After bringing a dog in or out, common surfaces such as door and gate handles were cleaned. Food dishes and bags brought for a dog were cleaned there, and no other personal belongings were allowed in.

They reduced the number of days open to three. O'Brien describes the scene as being just she and her partner working and having fewer dogs there each day. "We each take our side and are

able to stay six feet from each other, but even that can be a challenge at times."

O'Brien felt a special mission in staying open. "We felt a duty to stay open for our essential clients who are nurses and first responders. They are working long hours and depend on us for care for their dogs."

K9 to 5 estimated 40 percent fewer dogs in attendance and mentioned that a lot of clients had concerns about their dogs during a pandemic. They were concerned about changes to their dogs' routines. As O'Brien describes it, "Many of them are used to coming to daycare three days a week and having an outlet for their energy. With them being stuck at home, it does take a mental toll on them. Dogs do not like changes, and not being able to see their daycare moms and friends routinely can [cause] major training setbacks."

The daycare continually had challenges finding cleaning supplies, but they kept at it. And where there are dogs, there is always poop to pick up. O'Brien didn't let that sunny perspective of hers go to the dogs; instead, she pointed out, "Thankfully, poop bags were not a part of the shortage!"



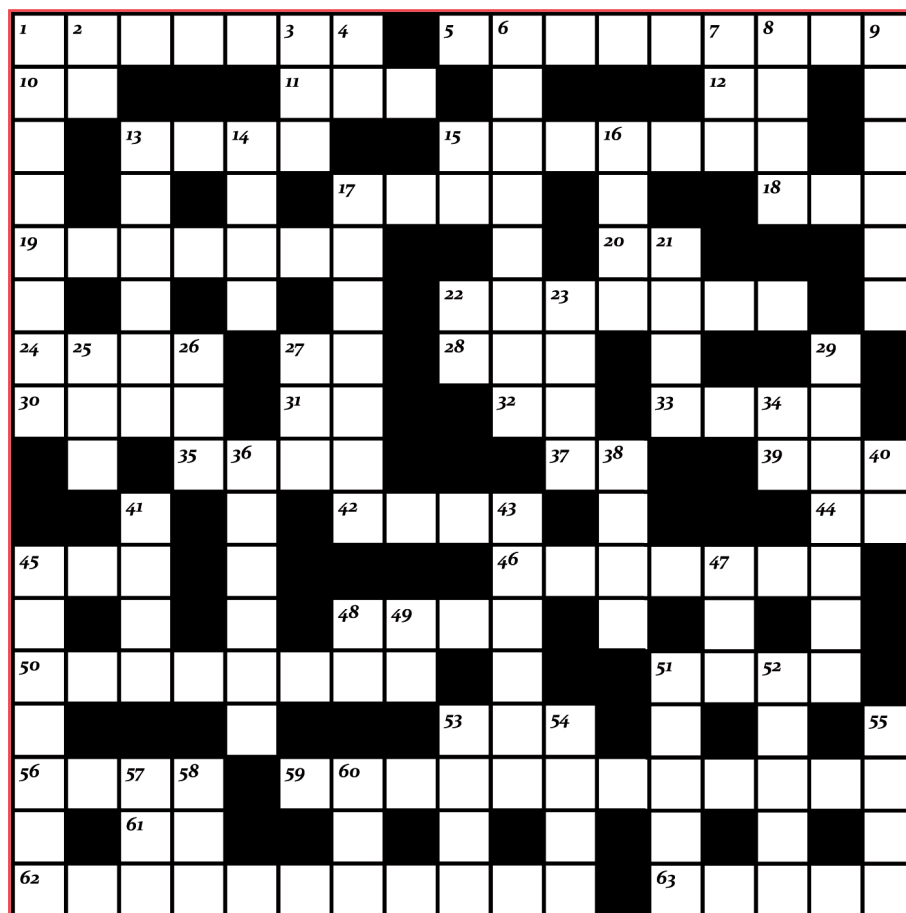
CROSSWORD

The Professionals

By Gail Marie Beckman customcrosswords.com

ACROSS

1. For while you're at work:
Doggie _____
5. (with 9 down) Pet compliance pro?
10. Short for education
11. Try some kibble
12. Germanium symbol
13. Pet photos, perhaps
15. Circulation stimulation
17. Roll _____
18. Fawn's Mom
19. Fur stylist
20. Dog tags, for one (abbr)
22. Locating, as a missing pet
24. Windows to the soul
27. Short goodbye
28. Don't get yourself _____ pickle
30. Uncommon, as a breed
31. Opposite prefix
32. Short for General Motors
33. Reverberate
35. Transport for your pet
37. Em follower
39. Dog years?
42. Communicate like a rooster
44. Take off
45. Precedes -logy and -graphy
46. Jackets and such for pets
48. Command to walk beside
50. Producer of fun for pets (2 wds)
51. Throw lightly
53. Yes, slangily
56. Obsessed with
59. Particular doctor
61. Between D and G
62. Goats are rented out to clear weeds at _____
63. Bedtime, usually



DOWN

1. Creator of special beds and pet housing
2. Paid notice, for short
3. Not commercial (abbr)
4. Apiece (abbr)
6. Keeping overnight
7. A raw _____ each day will help keep their coats shiny
8. Requirement
9. (see 1 across)
13. _____ Scooper
14. Command to return
15. Myself
16. Uttered
17. Maker of _____ pet treats
21. Many restaurants make it possible to _____ with your pet
22. _____, fie, foe, fum
23. Title
25. Small dog noise
26. Ready, _____, Go!
27. Groom's attire, for short
29. Special sunglasses for dogs
34. Half a laugh
36. You, too, can become an _____ blogger
38. Cats take many of them
40. Equal opportunity, shortened
41. Small horse
43. One who takes Fido for a stroll
45. Certain service
47. _____ Speedwagon
48. That guy
49. Utterance of hesitation
51. Instruct with repetition
52. Wasp action
53. Positive votes
54. Porkers
55. Create a bootie?
57. Short for telephone
58. Not on your game
60. Flightless bird



#Stay Safe

TO THE RESCUE

ALL BREEDS

Bichons & Little Buddies Rescue

414-750-0152, bichonrescues.com,
bichonandlittlebuddies@gmail.com,

Canine Cupids, caninecupids.org,
caninecupidsrescue@gmail.com

Fetch Wisconsin Rescue

fetchwi.org, fetchwirecue@gmail.com

Haven Animal Rescue

SafeHavenHSOC@gmail.com,

HavenAnimalRescueCO.org

H.O.P.E. Safehouse, 262-634-4571,

hopesafehouse.org, hopesafehouse@gmail.com

Hoping Fur a Home, hopingfurahome.com

JR's Pups-N-Stuff Dog Rescue, 414-640-8473,

jrspupsnstuff.org, jrspupsnstuff@yahoo.com

Lucky 7 Dog Rescue, 920-455-0901

lucky7dogrescue.com

adoptions@lucky7dogrescue.com

Milwaukee Pets Alive

milwaukeepetsalive.org,

adopt@milwaukeepetsalive.org

Paddy's Paws, 920-723-5389,

paddyspaws.blogspot.com

Patches Animal Rescue, 920-344-6637,

patchesanimalrescue.org,

patchesanimalrescue@yahoo.com

Remember Me Ranch

remembermeranch.org,

remembermeranch@gmail.com

Rescue Gang

rescuegang.org, info@rescuegang.org

Shelter From the Storm

sftsrescue.org, sfts.info@yahoo.com

Tailwaggers 911 Dog Rescue

262-617-8052, tailwaggers911.com,

rescuedogs@tailwaggers911.com

Underdog Pet Rescue of Wisconsin

608-224-0018, underdogpetrescue.org,

info@underdogpetrescue.org

Woof Gang Rescue of Wisconsin

woofgangrescue.com, Woofgangrescue@gmail.com

Yellow Brick Road Rescue & Sanctuary

414-758-6626, yellowbrickroadrescue.com,

loveqmoment@wi.rr.com

BASSET HOUND

Basset Buddies Rescue, Inc. 262-347-8823,

bbrescue.org, info@bbrescue.org

BORDER COLLIE

Wisconsin Border Collie Rescue

WIBorderCollieRescue.org

BOSTON TERRIER

WI Boston Terrier Rescue, 414-534-2996,

wisconsinbostonterrierrescue.com,

Ollie1022@sbcglobal.net

BOXER

Green Acres Boxer Rescue of WI

greenacresboxerrescue.com,

info@greenacresboxerrescue.com

CHESAPEAKE BAY RETRIEVER

Chessie Rescue of Wisconsin

920-427-4295, CROW.org

CHIHUAHUA

Wisconsin Chihuahua Rescue, Inc.

608-219-4044, wischirescue.org

chigirl1983@gmail.com

COCKER SPANIEL

Wisconsin Cocker Rescue, 262-271-6014,

wicockerrescue.com

Shorewood Cocker Rescue, 262-877-3294,

cockerrescue.net, elaine@cockerrescue

DACHSHUND

Oolong Dachshund Rescue

oolongdachshundrescue.org

DALMATIAN

Dal-Savers Dalmatian Rescue Inc.

414-297-9210, dalrescue.us, loveadal@yahoo.com

GERMAN SHEPHERD

German Shepherd Rescue Alliance of WI

414-461-9720, gsraw.com

Good Shepherd K-9 Rescue

608-868-2050, gsk9r.org,

pawmeadows@hughes.net

ARF's German Shepherd Rescue Inc.

arfrescue.com, gsd@arfrescue.com

White Paws German Shepherd Rescue

920-606-2597, whitepawsgsr.com,

calspence@aol.com

Wisconsin German Shepherd Rescue

920-731-1690, CFilz@aol.com

Mit Liebe German Shepherd Rescue

920-639-4274, mlgdsr.com

cgsds@aol.com

GERMAN SHORTHAIRED POINTER

Wisconsin German Shorthaired Pointer

Rescue Inc., 920-522-3131, wgspr.com,

wgsprinfo@gmail.com

GOLDEN RETRIEVER

Golden Rule Rescue & Rehabilitation (GRRR)

608-490-GRRR (4777), goldenrulerescue.org,

info@goldenrulerescue.org

WAAGR, 414-517-7725, waagr.org,

president@waagr.org

GREAT DANE

Great Dane Rescue of Minnesota & Wisconsin

gdromn.org, gdromn@gmail.com

GREAT PYRENEES

Great Pyrenees Rescue of Wisconsin, Inc.

920-293-8885, greatpyrrescuewi.com,

wooflodge@yahoo.com

GREYHOUND

Greyhound Pets of America-Wisconsin

gpawisconsin.org, Webmaster@gpawisconsin.org

LABRADOR

Labrador Education and Rescue Network

847-289-PETS (7387), labadoption.org,

learn dogs@labadoption.org

Labs N More, 414-571-0777,

LabsNMoreRescue.petfinder.com,

LabsnMoreRescue@yahoo.com

MALTESE

Northcentral Maltese Rescue Inc.

262-800-3323, malteserescue.homestead.com,

malteserescue@hotmail.com

PIT BULL TERRIER

Apple Valley Pit Crew, applevalleypitcrew.org

Pit Bull Advocates of America,

pitbulladvocates.org

Helping Pitties in the City

(Remember Me Ranch)

remembermeranch.org/pittiesinthecity,

pittiesinthecitymke@gmail.com

Misfits Mutts Dog Rescue

misfitmuttsdogrescue.com

Off-the-Chain MKE, offthechainmke.org

PUG

Pug Hugs, Inc., 414-764-0795,

milwaukeepugfest.com,

milwaukeepugfest@yahoo.com

SAINT BERNARD

Wisc. St. Bernard Rescue, 414-764-0262,

wstresq@jmuch.com, saintrescue.org

SHIBA INU

Midwest Shiba Inu Rescue

630-225-5046, shibarescue.org

SHIH TZU

New Beginnings Shih Tzu Rescue

nbstr.org, nbstr2.board@yahoo.com

Shih Tzu Rescue of Central Wisconsin

shihtzurescueofcentralwi.org

VIZSLA

Central Wisconsin Vizsla Rescue Club (CWVC)

608-279-4141, WiVizslaRescue@gmail.com

WESTIE

Wisconsin Westie Rescue, Inc.

920-882-0382, wisconsinwestierescue.com,

westies@new.rr.com

BIRDS

RoseBerry Bird Rescue, Neenah, WI

920-729-0901, RoseBerryRescue@aol.com,

roseberrybirdrescue.org

CATS

Almost Home Kitty Rescue

almosthomekittyrescue.org,

info@almosthomekittyrescue.org

Happy Endings No Kill Cat Shelter

414-744-3287, HappyEndings.us,

info@HappyEndings.us

Little Orphan's Animal Rescue

608-556-6130, littleorphansanimalrescue.org,

cdcpumpkin@yahoo.com

HORSES

Stepping Stones Farm

steppingstonefarms.org,

liafarrier@gmail.com



WVRC

FETCH MAGAZINE



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