# **AnimalTails**

Connecting Animals in Need With People Who Care.



Spring 2024



## **Snickers**

Meet Snickers, a beautiful orange tabby. A compassionate individual discovered Snickers in distress with a severe wound on his side. At CHS, we do not shy away from medical cases. Snickers was no different and he desperately needed care and attention.

Our veterinarian, Dr. Patrias, quickly assessed Snickers and found a ruptured abscess on his side. It was likely caused by an untreated injury or bug bite, though we will never truly know. The wound had become infected, posing a serious risk to Snickers' health. Snickers was placed under anesthesia, and carefully, Dr. Patrias cleaned his wound. She made sure to remove any dead tissue and then stitched the area together. A small opening was left to allow for proper drainage and lidocaine was administered to reduce any pain Snickers might endure when he awoke from the procedure.

Snickers is now on the road to recovery, but his journey is far from over. Unfortunately, Snickers also tested positive for FIV, a virus that can weaken his immune system. FIV could impact Snicker's abiltiy to heal properly. We will monitor him closely to ensure he fully recovers. Snickers is receiving pain medication and antibiotics to fight any possible infections as needed. Our team will ensure that he receives the attention and support necessary for a full recovery. Despite his ordeal, Snickers has shown us his sweet side, eager for the love and affection that he deserves.

CHS will continue to care for Snickers while he awaits his forever home. And we will be here for the next animal in distress who needs us.

Your help gives cats like Snickers a second chance at a happy life. Thank You.



Cascades Humane Society

1515 Carmen Drive Jackson, MI 49202 517-787-7387 www.chspets.org

#### **HOURS OF OPERATION**

Tuesday – Saturday Noon – 6 p.m.

Sunday - Monday Closed

#### **OUR MISSION**

Connecting animals in need with people who care.

#### **OUR VISION**

A community in which all pets have loving homes and are treated with compassion and respect.

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Carrie Raymond,
Co-President
Kerry Klee-Tiesman,
Co-President
Mike Pulgini, Secretary
Mike Ross, Co-Treasurer
Chrissy Siders, Co-Treasurer
Patrick Batterson
Liz Davey
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#### Follow us!

Cascades Humane Society is an independent 501(c)3 organization. CHS relies primarily on the generosity of individuals, foundations, corporations and special events to support our services and programs. CHS receives no funding from federal, state or county government, or other national or state humane organizations.



## **Letter From the ED**

Spring has sprung and that means baseball games, flowers blooming, and of course baby animals (my favorite!). It is also a great time to think about your pet's health. Regular check-ups for pets are crucial for ensuring their well-being and catching any potential health issues early on. Keeping up to date on vaccines is essential to protect them from preventable diseases. In addition, protecting against parasites like fleas,

ticks, and internal worms is vital, especially as the weather warms up and these pests become more active.

Heartworm is a deadly disease that is spread through the bites of infected mosquitos. As the weather warms up and more mosquitos are present, the risk of dogs contracting heartworm increases. Unfortunately, it takes about 6 months for the disease to show up on tests, so it is imperative that testing is done annually in order to catch it. Although there is less of a risk during the colder months, it is recommended you provide your dog with heartworm preventative year-round to build resistance to the disease. Combining heartworm prevention with other parasites preventatives, like fleas and ticks, is convenient and cost-effective.

Preventive care and early detection are key to maintaining your pet's health. If you have any specific concerns or questions, we always recommend you consult with your veterinarian.

For pet owners who may face financial constraints, our low-cost vaccine clinics can be a valuable resource. Thanks to the generosity of donors like you, we are able to offer these low-cost veterinary services. Thank you for your support!



**Executive Director** 





## PAWS IN THE PARK

Join us Saturday, June 1st for Paws in the Park! This is our annual family and dog-friendly fundraiser featuring a 5k run/walk, a 1.3 mile walk, and a kids only doggie dash. In addition, there will be games for kids, food trucks on site, Detroit Circus performers, and three dog shows by Puppy Pals. Registration for the 5k and the walk includes a commemorative t-shirt and a goodie bag. 5k participants also receive a medal. For more information go to www.chspets.org.

# A Day in the Life of a CHS Employee: Dogs Edition

Welcome to a behind-the-scenes glimpse into the daily routine of our dedicated dog care workers, where wagging tails and slobbery kisses await at every turn.

#### **MORNING ROUTINE**

As the sun rises and staff members trickle in, they are greeted by the chorus of eager barks and wagging tails. The first order of business? Checking messages about our furry residents and arming

> themselves with walkietalkies for seamless communication. The day kicks off with potty walks, a cherished ritual that gives our canine

companions a chance to stretch their leas and breathe in the morning air. Weather permitting, our dogs spend the day in outdoor kennels, enjoying the fresh air and engaging views.

#### **BREAKFAST**

With pottying out of the way, it's time for the most important meal of the day — breakfast! Each dog receives their nourishment in enrichment tovs. slow feeders, or puzzle feeders, fostering mental stimulation while satisfying their hunger.

#### THE DIRTY WORK

Behind the scenes, our diligent staff roll up their sleeves for the less glamorous tasks. From scrubbing kennels with hospitalgrade disinfectants to arranging cozy bedding and replenishing toys, every detail is meticulously tended to, ensuring a clean and comfortable environment for our four-legged guests.

#### **ENRICHMENT MATTERS**

Enrichment isn't iust a buzzword - it's a way of life for our furry friends. Throughout the day, our staff ensures that each dog receives a healthy dose of mental and physical stimulation, whether through interactive toys, bones, or engaging playtime sessions.

#### **MIDDAY ADVENTURES**

As the day unfolds, our canine companions embark on a series of adventures, from leisurely walks with staff and volunteers to supervised playdates and

training sessions with our shelter manager. Each interaction is an opportunity

to nurture their social skills and strengthen the bond between humans and canines.

As the day comes to a close, the dogs are ushered back indoors to their meticulously cleaned kennels, a sanctuary of comfort and cleanliness. With them settled in. our staff roll up their sleeves once more, embarking on the task of cleaning the outdoor kennels, ensuring every corner is pristine and inviting for tomorrow's adventures.

#### **DINNER TIME**

With the outdoor chores complete, it's time for the

highlight of the evening — dinner! Once again. each dog is treated to a meal served in puzzles and slow feeders.



offering not only nourishment but also valuable enrichment opportunities. As they dine, the dogs engage their minds and senses, further enhancing their overall well-being.

#### **FINAL STROLLS**

Before bidding farewell to another day, our staff ensures that every dog has the chance for one last potty walk, and a final opportunity to stretch their leas. With tails wagging and spirits lifted, our friends settle in for the night, knowing they are safe, loved, and cared for.

In the stillness of the night, our dedicated staff complete their final rounds, ensuring that every dog is comfortable and content for the night ahead. Messages of love and 'good nights' are whispered in soft tones, offering reassurance and companionship.

At the end of the day, we are reminded of the hard work of our staff, whose unwavering commitment ensures the happiness and wellbeing of animals in our care. Their hard work and compassion are the foundation of our shelter, creating a haven where every animal is cherished and every day is filled with love and care.

# **Cat Enrichment**

Enrichment is important for all animals in captivity, whether in a zoo, shelter or house. Enrichment encourages natural behaviors seen in the wild, supports positive mental well-being, reduces stress, provides physical and mental stimulation, and prevents boredom and frustration.

Typically, owners hear of enrichment for their dogs, but it is just as important for cats! Enrichment can be as simple as filling a toilet paper tube with some cat nip and folding the ends up. Here are some other ideas that you can do at home that are easy and inexpensive! Your cats will just love these purrfect new additions to their lives!

#### Reach Feeder

#### What you need:

- 3-4 toilet paper tubes
- Shoebox with a lid or a soft drink box
- Pencil or pen
- Sharp knife
- Cat kibble or treats

What to do: Using the pen or pencil, trace the end of a toilet paper tube on top of the lid in all different directions (one outline per roll that you have). Using your knife, cut the holes out on the lid, staying along the traced lines (too large of a hole will make the roll not sturdy). Lastly, slide the rolls in each of the holes and fill them with some kibble or treats!

#### **Bottle Cap Game**

#### What you need:

- A sheet pan
- Bottle caps
- Water
- Cat treats

What to do: Fill the sheet pan with a layer of water. Place treats into the bottle caps and float them on the water.

#### **String of Cups Game**

#### What you need:

- Paper cups
- Cat treats
- String
- Hole punch or scissors

What to do: Cut small holes toward the top of the cups, directly across from one another. Pull string through the cups and fill with treats. Hang the string with the cups somewhere the cat can access it and watch as they try to knock the cups over to get to the treats. When the game is done, discard or store the string out of reach from the cats.

 $^{*}$ Please monitor all games and enrichment and when the cats are finished, put the items away.

# **WISHLIST**

Cascades Humane Society needs donations to help run our facility and take care of the hundreds of animals that come through our door.

#### **DROP DONATIONS OFF**

1515 Carmen Drive, Jackson, MI 49202

#### **HOURS**

Tuesday-Saturday 12 p.m. – 6 p.m.

517-787-PETS

- · Cat and Dog Food
- Non-Clumping Cat Litter
- Aluminum Baking Pans
- Liquid Laundry Detergent
- Bleach
- Heavy Duty Leashes
- Hand and Dish Soap
- Heavy Trash Bags
- Dog and Cat Toys
- Dog and Cat Treats

# 2023 IMPACT



1,200

**Total Adoptions** 

Small Animals: 32 Dogs: 454 Cats: 714



900

Owned Cats and Dogs Spayed or Neutered



14,938

Pounds of Pet Food Given to Pets in Need



3,500

Volunteer Hours Given with an Estimated Value of \$40,250 to CHS

- Distilled Water
- Returnable Bottles
- Paper Towels
- Monetary Donations
- Volunteers
- Exam Gloves