



August 2006

## A NEW HOME FOR ANIMAL CONTROL

VOL. I August 2006

### Newsorthy

- New Facility for Animal Control
- Pet Health Radio Show
- Pictures from Successful Adoption Fests

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Volunteer Joe Kozlowski socializes and walks the dogs on a weekly basis.



Thank you to the McHenry County Board for approving the State Farm Building in Crystal Lake as the new site for Animal Control. The staff and Volunteers of McHenry County Animal Control and Adoption Center are grateful to the board members who

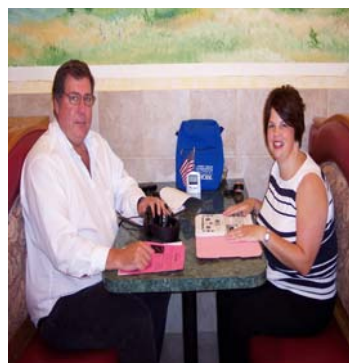
Voted in favor of a new facility. We are excited that we will be better able to serve the growing community of McHenry County with a larger, updated facility in a great location. The support from the community we serve has been very encouraging.

Many well wishers called to congratulate us; not only on the new building but on the work we do here at our site in Woodstock as well. We all appreciate the support.



Thank you to the staff and volunteers of McHenry County Animal Control & Adoption Center. The work you do for the community and the animals in your care is invaluable. You make a significant difference in the life of the people and animals you donate your time and talent to.

### McHenry County Animal Control & Adoption Center on the Air & at your finger tips



Kara Plonczynski the Volunteer Coordinator for Animal Control discusses topics on Pet Health and special news from Animal Control every Tuesday with Bill Marquis. You can hear the radio show on WMCW AM 1600 and AM 1580 during the 10:00 am hour every Tuesday.

WE ARE ON THE

## WEB

See adoptable animals at

[www.mcac.petfinder.org](http://www.mcac.petfinder.org)

Find your lost animal at

[www.petharbor.com](http://www.petharbor.com)

### A NEW FRIEND FOR LIFE



Volunteers Ellen Roemisch (now a staff member) and Becky Monroe nurse a new born kitten back to health.

**100 Years From Now it will not matter what my bank account was, the type of house I lived in, or the kind of car I drove, but the world may be different because I was a volunteer.**



This family visited us during our Summer Adoption Festival in June. They brought their young son in to look at our adoptable dogs. Their son connected instantly with a sweet golden lab mix named Lacey. Everyone enjoyed the interaction between this family and their new pet.



The Wright family visited us during our Feline Frenzy Festival in July. They came in with an open mind ready to add a new addition to their family. They fell in love with Gonzo a sweet dog, and then couldn't leave the cat room without the kitten who "chose them". The more the merrier.



Daisy was adopted by Sunrise Assisted Living of Gurnee. The residents bonded instantly with Daisy. Daisy helps the residents get their exercise with daily walks and even Frisbee games. Daisy loves the attention. The residents are grateful to have Daisy as their new friend.

### Pet Adoptions bring happiness to any home...



Volunteer Juan Carlos Rondon helps with kennel cleaning



# HAPPY TAILS



Chewy came to Animal Control in February half frozen, literally. Once Chewy was nursed back to health he was placed for adoption.

Chewy was with us for quite a while, he was very energetic for a large dog. Staff and volunteers formed a very close bond with him as they socialized him and trained him to take walks on a leash. Chewy was a new dog. When Jody and Scott Gerretsen came in to adopt, they immediately connected with Chewy. Staff and volunteers had many stories and lots of information to share about Chewy. The day Chewy was adopted was bitter sweet, we wanted more than anything for Chewy to have a good home but we were all sad to see him go. We were thrilled when Jody sent us a thank you card and included pictures of Chewy enjoying his new home and family. Jody

made our day just last week when she brought Chewy in to say hello. He looked beautiful, his coat was shiny, he had gained some weight and you could see how well he had bonded with his family. Thank you to Jody for keeping us posted with Chewy's progress. We all have a place in our hearts for him and all of the animals in our care. It is very rewarding to know that the work we do and our love for the animals makes a difference.



Children who visited our Summer Adoption Festivals enjoyed having their faces painted by members of our Volunteer Teen Corps.

To the Staff of the McHenry County Animal Control:

We just wanted to let you know that we found the best dog in the world for our home. (Sunrise Assisted Living in Crystal Lake). When we came to the McHenry County Animal Control building as our last and final resort of the day, (it was our third place) we had no idea what a wonderful dog we would find there. From the moment we brought him to his new "home" our residents faces lit up! He is an absolute joy! He adjusted instantly to his many owners. We all love him here. He is well taken care of, he walks outside with our residents & staff on our beautiful walking path. And, the picture I enclosed is the dog with some of our residents out in our gazebo. Our residents named him "Jack". I wanted to let you know, how happy this dog is. And this is a wonderful home for him to live out his senior years. The vet checked him out and he is healthy, with the exception of a common ear infection, which we are taking care of. We think he is smiling in this picture.

*Jamie Murphy*  
 Jamie Murphy  
 Activities & Volunteer Coordinator  
 Sunrise Assisted Living of Crystal Lake  
 (815) 444-6600



"Everyone here (at AC) was so friendly and helpful and could share so much information about each one of the animals. We will definitely come back for future pets."  
 Holly & Jeff Shoulders



Volunteers Kathie Gaffney (L) and Missy Nolan (R) set up the prize and raffle table for our summer festivals.

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**Office Hours:**  
Mon/Tue/Thur/Fri 8:00-4:30  
Wed 8:00-6:30  
Sat 8:00-2:30

**Adoption Hours:**  
Mon/Tue/Thur/Fri 10:30-4:30  
Wed 10:30-6:30  
Sat 10:00-2:30

To Volunteer, Contact  
Kara Plonczynski  
Mon/Tue/Wed 9:00-2:30  
(815)334-4946  
[Kmploncz@co.mchenry.il.us](mailto:Kmploncz@co.mchenry.il.us)  
Or come in and fill out an application

## WE APPRECIATE OUR VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are a real asset to The Adoption Center of Animal Control. Check out our awesome volunteers throughout this newsletter. They help us with cage and kennel cleaning, adoption counselors, office work, special events, animal socialization, and various other needs. **Volunteers Opportunities are available** come in and see Kara Plonczynski (see sidebar) to join the fun and make a difference.



## DID YOU KNOW: About our ADOPTION CENTER?

McHenry County Animal Control has an Adoption Center. We have cats and dogs available for adoption Monday through Saturday. We occasionally have other animals as well, rabbits, ferrets, birds, guinea pigs, and iguanas to name a few.

Everyone is welcome to view the animals after they sign in. Once you see an animal you are interested in getting to know better you will come back up front to fill out a 2 page pre-adoption application with basic information. This information may include, name address, ownership information past and present and living arrangement such

as owning or renting. An important note to renters; You need to bring a letter from your landlord stating that pets are allowed in your complex. We will verify the information and your application will go through a quick approval process.

Once you are approved staff and or volunteer adoption counselors will assist you by taking the animal out and sharing information about the animal. This is an important step in the adoption process because the information gathered will help ensure a good fit between the pet and family.

Once the decision to adopt has been made, the animal will go with staff to be prepared for the adoption and the new owner will complete the adoption process at the front desk. Office staff will explain the adoption paperwork. The owner receives an adoption folder with the adoption papers, rabies tags, microchip information, free vet visit and discounted grooming information as well as some basic information on owner a pet.

The owner and their new pet are reunited and go on to live a happy life together.



Office staff Renee Laramie assist an adoptive family with adoption paperwork.



Staff and volunteer adoption counselors share and gather information to ensure a good fit.





