

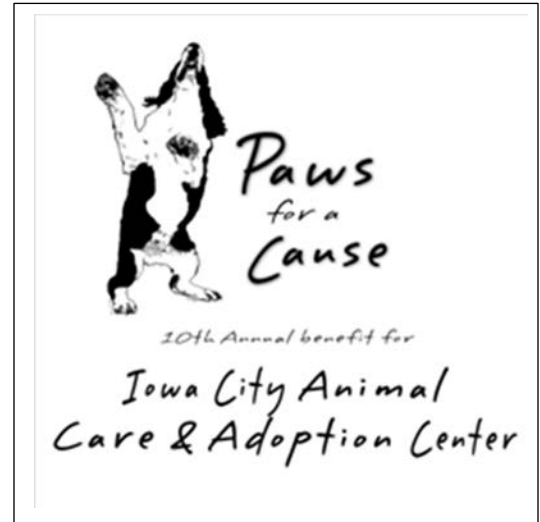


Monday - Friday 10 to 6
Saturday 9 to 4
Sunday Closed

September 2011

Ten, but Who's Counting?

We're counting, that's who! The 10th annual Paws for a Cause dog walk sponsored by the Friends of the Animal Center Foundation (FACF) will be held **Sunday, September 18th**, noon-3pm at the Johnson County Fairgrounds. Leash on Life is delighted to once again be a TOP DOG sponsor for the sixth year in a row. This fun event includes contests as well as the dog walk. You can get more information and pick up a registration form at Leash on Life or go to www.FACF.org. If you want to support FACF, but can't make the walk you can make a pledge by coming into Leash on Life. Much good work happens with your donations; training classes to enrich dog's lives and make them more adoptable; medical care; mobile adoptions; volunteer programs and of course toys for all the dogs and cats waiting for forever homes... Hope to see you on the 18th!



KONGs for K9s...

Leash on Life is honored to be the only Iowa store to work with *Military Working Dog Team Support Association* or MWD TSA. MWD TSA has asked Leash on Life to be a collection center during September for KONG® toys for military dogs. The toys will be sent in packages directly to the dogs in the field. You will also have the opportunity to attach a message for the service member working with the dog. If you would like to donate a KONG®, Leash on Life will be offering a 10% discount on all KONG® items for the month of September, just tell us you saw the KONGs for K9 project in the newsletter. Also being collected are Furminators® and dog wipes. Now is your chance to help out the dogs that are helping out over seas. MWD TSA is a volunteer 501c3 organization based out of Atlanta focusing on supporting military working dog teams. You can find plenty of interesting information and heroic stories on their web site www.mwdtsa.org.



Take the Plunge....

Leash on Life is happy to be a major sponsor for the **9th Annual Iowa City Dog Paddle** to support the off leash dog parks. This will be held Saturday September 10th, from noon to 5 p.m. at the City Park pool. Registration is \$10 per dog and forms are available on-line. Be sure to have proof of rabies vaccine! While you are in the neighborhood, walk over and enjoy the music of the Iowa Women's Music Festival in Upper City Park. [Leash on Life](#) and [Laurie Haag Photography](#) are both Goddess level sponsors of this toe tapping annual event.

Adoptable Cat of the Month, Pippa...

Pippa is a love. She came to visit us at Leash on Life during a mobile adoption day in August. She is a little shy but very affectionate and people friendly. She is also quite the looker with a beautiful tabby coat. She is already spayed and ready to settle into a new home. Pippa is available at the Iowa City Adoption Center, call (319) 356-5295 or visit www.icanimalcenter.org to learn more about any of the dogs and cats at the Center.



As far too many cat parents know, urinary tract disease in cats is something that occurs fairly often. Typical signs of Feline Lower Urinary Tract Disease (FLUTD) include blood in the urine, straining or inability to urinate or urinating in unusual/undesirable locations. Your kitty may experience these signs when inflammation of the urinary bladder (cystitis) occurs.

The most dangerous complication of FLUTD is urinary obstruction, which occurs mainly in male cats. A small plug of mucus, urinary crystals, or even tiny stones can cause an obstruction leading to a partial or complete inability to urinate. Cats that experience this problem often spend a lot of time in the litter box straining, which many owners may confuse with constipation. It is safest to take a cat that is straining to the vet for evaluation. When urinary obstruction occurs, it is a true emergency, as toxins will build up and lead to kidney damage or even death. With prompt veterinary attention, these cats can literally be pulled back from the brink of death to go on and lead happy lives.

Treating FLUTD can be challenging as there are many things that can cause FLUTD including urinary tract infection, bladder stones, bladder cancer, and bladder trauma. Finding the cause is not always simple. Older cats may have underlying disease that has led to infection or stone formation, but in young cats often no cause is found, even with extensive testing. You might be surprised to learn that when signs of FLUTD are present in young cats, only around 5% of them are actually found to have a urinary tract infection. When a cause is identified, your veterinarian can prescribe a specific treatment. When no cause is found, there are many interventions that may help. Encouraging fluid intake is always an important component of treating urinary tract disease. Adding water to the food, feeding canned foods, and supplying a drinking fountain are all helpful in getting a cat to drink more water. Providing a mentally stimulating environment to help relieve anxiety can be very helpful in addressing this problem as well.

Contributed by Sue Delaney, D.V.M.

Dr. Delaney is now seeing patients on Wednesday and Thursday at [The Family Pet Veterinary Clinic](#) in West Branch.

Are you Ready for Some Football?

Hawkeye fans come in all shapes and sizes, some even have four legs. We have just what they need to get in the spirit. Hawkeye jackets, jerseys, collars and leashes are all here. We also have Hawkeye half time treats for you to share and football toys. We have quite the selection for the most avid of fans. Yes, we even have some Cyclone collars and leashes.



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