

SUMMER 2026

ANIMAL CRACKERS



Humane Society of Barron County | hsbcpets.com | hsbcpets@gmail.com



Happy Tails | Maverick

We love hearing about our alumni, and Maverick (formerly Blanco) has been making us incredibly proud! After just over a month of competing, Maverick earned his second Rally title, an impressive accomplishment for such a young dog.

An early weekend competition was especially exciting as he posted scores of 87 on the first day while working through a few ring nerves, followed by a perfect 100 on day two and an outstanding 99 on the final day. To top it off, he earned first place on both days!



Maverick's success is a wonderful reminder of what can happen when a dog is given patience, training, and a family committed to helping them reach their full potential.

Congratulations to Maverick and his dedicated family on this incredible achievement.

We can't wait to see what he accomplishes next!

OUR MISSION

Assist in the reduction of pet overpopulation, while improving the lives of homeless animals through quality care, adoption, education and advocacy.

OUR VISION

Create communities where every companion animal has a safe and loving forever home and people value animals and treat them with respect and kindness.

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HSBC Golden Girls

This spring, HSBC had the privilege of playing a small role in one of Wisconsin's most significant recent animal welfare efforts.

At the request of the Wisconsin Federated Humane Societies and the Wisconsin Puppy Mill Project, we welcomed four beagles into our care—Sophia, Rose, Blanche, and Dorothy, affectionately known as our Golden Girls.

The four dogs were among more than 2,100 beagles removed from Ridgman Farms, a long-standing breeding facility that supplied dogs for research. After spending years living in wire cages with no opportunity to experience the world beyond them, these dogs faced an entirely new life filled with unfamiliar sights, sounds, and experiences. While many organizations across Wisconsin came together to assist with this unprecedented effort, we were honored to provide care for these four remarkable girls as they began their journey toward a brighter future.

Their needs extended far beyond medical care. Our staff spent months helping them learn the everyday skills that most dogs take for granted. When they first arrived, they were frightened to step onto grass and didn't know how to eat or drink from bowls. Simple experiences—walking on a leash, riding in a car, exploring a yard, enjoying a treat, sleeping on soft bedding, or playing with toys—were all completely new.

Using patient, positive, and fear-free handling techniques, our team worked each day to help build confidence at the girls' own pace. More importantly, we introduced them to something they had been largely denied throughout their lives: safety, kindness, gentle care, and unconditional love.

Watching each dog begin to trust, explore, and discover the joys of simply being a dog was both inspiring and humbling. Every small milestone—a tentative step across the grass, a curious sniff of a toy, or the first wag of a tail—represented tremendous progress.

Today, each of our Golden Girls has moved on to the next chapter of her journey. While their stories will always remain close to our hearts, we are incredibly proud of how far they came and grateful to have been part of their transformation.

We extend our sincere thanks to Dr. Kahn and the entire team at Healthy Pet Animal Hospital for the care and expertise they provided to these girls.

To Sophia, Rose, Blanche, and Dorothy: thank you for trusting us. We wish you lives filled with comfort, adventure, and the love every dog deserves.



A Note of Thanks.

A special thank you to Wieckowicz Law office for donating printing supplies and resources to support HSBC's communication efforts.



Paws for Pie 2026: Our Sweetest Success Yet!

Our hearts—and our pie plates—are full!

Thanks to the incredible support of our community, this year's Paws for Pie fundraiser at Chetek Liberty Fest on July 4–5 was our most successful event to date. Every slice of pie, root beer float, and shirt purchased helped provide food, shelter, medical care, and second chances for the animals at the Humane Society of Barron County.

Events like this simply wouldn't be possible without the people who generously give their time. A heartfelt thank you to our amazing event volunteers, whose enthusiasm, hard work, and countless hours made the weekend run smoothly. Whether baking, serving treats, setting up, cleaning up, or greeting customers with a smile, each volunteer played an important role in our success.

We are deeply grateful to our generous event sponsors:

- **Wieckowicz Law Office**
- **208 Tavern**
- **Edgewood Bakeshop**
- **FostBites Liquor**

Your partnership helps make lifesaving work possible, and we are honored to have your support.

We would also like to recognize a very special anonymous donor who generously purchased new event tents for the shelter.

Throughout the busy holiday weekend, these tents kept our staff and volunteers shaded from the sun, dry during passing rain, and provided a secure space to store supplies. This thoughtful gift will continue to benefit our outreach and fundraising events for years to come.

To everyone who stopped by our booth, enjoyed a sweet treat, shared a kind word, made a donation, or helped spread the word—thank you. Your support goes far beyond a fundraiser. It helps provide compassionate care, enrichment, medical treatment, and new beginnings for homeless animals throughout our community.

Together, you made this our sweetest Paws for Pie yet, and we couldn't have done it without you.

Help Your Donation Go Even Further

Looking for an easy way to help us stretch every donation? When you mail a gift to the Humane Society of Barron County, simply include your email address to receive your tax receipt electronically, or check the "Save a Stamp" option to opt out of receiving a mailed receipt.

Choosing an emailed receipt helps us reduce printing and postage costs, allowing more of every dollar to go directly toward caring for the animals who depend on us.

It's a small change that makes a big difference. Thank you for helping us make every donation go a little further!

Become a Monthly Hero

Making a difference has never been easier! Our new Monthly Hero program allows you to provide steady, reliable support for the animals at the Humane Society of Barron County through automatic monthly donations.

Monthly giving helps us plan ahead, respond quickly to animals in need, and provide consistent care—from nutritious meals and enrichment to medical treatment and everyday necessities. Best of all, your generosity continues working all year long without the need to remember to make another donation.

Whether it's \$10, \$25, or any amount that fits your budget, every monthly gift helps provide homeless animals with the care, comfort, and second chances they deserve.

Join our community of Monthly Heroes today at hsbcpets.com/monthlyhero and become part of the lifesaving work happening every day at HSBC.

Support HSBC by Engaging on Facebook!

Did you know you can help the Humane Society of Barron County without spending a dime? Simply following us on Facebook and interacting with our posts makes a real impact!

Your engagement directly helps HSBC.

Through Facebook's engagement programs, your interactions help us earn money that support our mission and the animals in our care.

Additionally, many of our animals are finding their forever homes through social media. Every time you like, comment, share, or interact with one of our posts, you help our animals get seen by more people—potential adopters. A simple share could be the reason the right person sees a pet waiting for their new family.

It truly is one of the easiest ways to help: no purchase, no donation, and no extra time required. Just click, share, and help us spread the word!

Follow along and help our animals find their next chapter at:
www.facebook.com/hsbcpets

Volunteers Make Our Mission Possible

Behind every happy adoption, every wagging tail, and every second chance is a team of dedicated volunteers making it all possible.

At the Humane Society of Barron County, volunteers are an essential part of our lifesaving work. Whether your passion is working directly with animals or lending a hand behind the scenes, there is a place for you to make a meaningful difference.

Volunteer opportunities include:

- Animal care and enrichment
- Dog walking
- Dogs Day Out adventures
- Fostering animals in need
- Reception and office support
- Laundry and housekeeping
- Event and fundraising assistance
- Yard work, maintenance, and special projects

No matter your skills or schedule, every hour volunteered helps improve the lives of the animals in our care. From providing enrichment that supports behavioral health to keeping our facility clean and welcoming, volunteers play an important role in helping us provide the highest standard of care.

One volunteer we'd like to recognize is **Sandy N.** Sandy is always willing to step up wherever she's needed, often taking on projects that require extra time and dedication. This summer, we are especially grateful for her commitment to keeping our shelter grounds and play yards maintained. Thanks to her hard work, our dogs have safe, well-kept outdoor spaces where they can run, play, explore, and simply enjoy being dogs. Her willingness to tackle one of the biggest jobs around the shelter has made a lasting impact on both our animals and our team. To Sandy, and to every volunteer who gives their time, talents, and compassion—**thank you.** Your generosity allows us to do more for the animals and the people who love them.

If you've been looking for a meaningful way to give back to your community, we'd love to welcome you to our volunteer team. Whether you can help every week or just a few times a year, your time truly makes a difference.

Learn more about our volunteer opportunities and get started at [hsbcpets.com/volunteer](https://www.hsbcpets.com/volunteer). We can't wait to meet you!

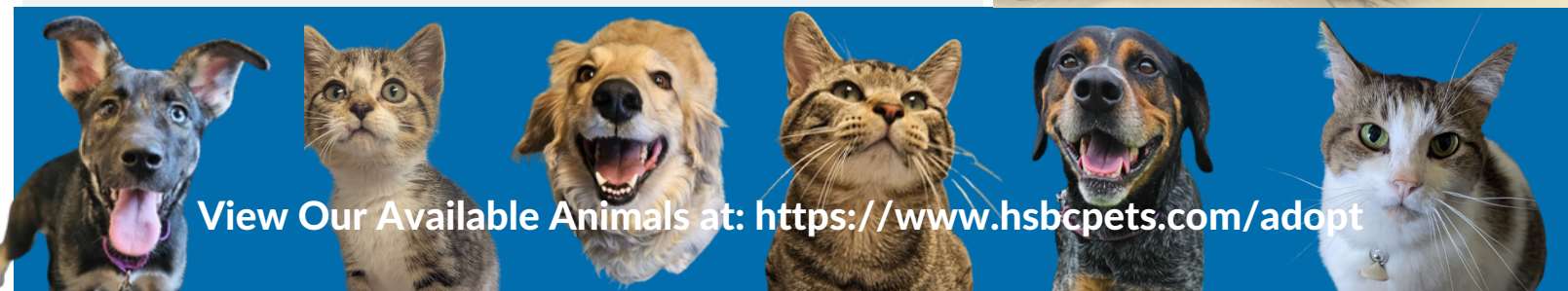
Longest Shelter Resident: Felicity

Since arriving at HSBC on May 7, Felicity has patiently watched countless feline friends find their forever homes while she continues to wait for hers.

This sleek black beauty has a heart as big as her personality. Affectionate, social, and always eager to be part of the action, Felicity loves people and has a knack for making everyone she meets smile.

Whether she's asking for attention, showing off her playful side, or simply keeping you company, she has all the qualities of an incredible companion. As our longest shelter resident, we hope her turn is just around the corner. If you've been thinking about adding a loving, loyal cat to your family, Felicity is more than ready to trade her shelter kennel for a place to call home.

Learn more or apply to adopt at [hsbcpets.com/adopt](https://www.hsbcpets.com/adopt).



View Our Available Animals at: <https://www.hsbcpets.com/adopt>

Creating a Calmer Shelter, One Note at a Time

Reducing stress is one of the most important ways we support the physical and emotional well-being of the animals in our care.

For years, we've relied on an Alexa system to provide calming background music throughout the shelter. While it served us well, unexpected commercials or sudden volume changes occasionally created unnecessary stress for our dogs and cats.

This summer, thanks to a generous grant from the St. Croix Valley Foundation, we were able to enhance our enrichment program with a dedicated Pet Acoustics sound system throughout the shelter. Designed specifically for animal care environments, the system plays music that has been scientifically developed to promote relaxation, with separate units tailored to the hearing ranges of both dogs and cats.

At HSBC, every decision we make is guided by one question:

How will this affect the animals in our care? From fear-free handling to thoughtfully designed enrichment, we are committed to creating an environment where animals feel as safe and comfortable as possible while they wait for their new homes. We're excited to add this new tool to our shelter and grateful for the support that makes these meaningful improvements possible.

A Small Delivery That Made a Big Splash

This summer, one of our incredible donors came to the rescue to help our beagles beat the heat and surprised us by having kiddie pools (almost instantly) delivered directly to the shelter through Walmart. The pools became a favorite form of enrichment and cooling-off for our dogs, reminding us just how impactful a simple, thoughtful gift can be.

That generous act also reminded us how convenient it is for supporters to help meet our animals' everyday needs. Our Walmart Wishlist allows donors to purchase much-needed supplies and have them shipped directly to the shelter, making it easy to provide immediate support from wherever you are.

Every item—whether it's cleaning supplies, enrichment toys, food, treats, or seasonal essentials—helps us provide the highest quality care for the animals who depend on us. Thank you to everyone who continues to support our mission, one delivery at a time.

We need your help.

It might seem like we run on pure love, but caring for animals costs money too! Did you know we don't receive any county or state funding? HSBC wants to place every animal into a forever home and we need your help to make that happen.

Shelter Wishlist

- Peanut Butter (Xylitol Free)
- Wet Kitten Food
- Hard Cat Treats
- Soft Dog Treats
- Cardboard Cat Scratchers
- Paper towels
- Toilet Paper
- Laundry Detergent
- Postage Stamps
- Gift Cards



Walmart

amazon



chewy.com



Scan with your smartphone camera to see wishlists.

Donations can be made via:

www.hsbcpet.com/donate

PayPal



Hey you, yeah you! Join us at one of our upcoming events.



Upcoming Events

Board Meetings are held the second Thursday of every month at 6 PM, at Chetek City Hall. Board meetings are open to all members of the public.

Tails & Tires Motor Show:
Rice Lake Speedway
September 19th
10am - 2pm



**HUMANE SOCIETY
OF BARRON COUNTY**

ANNUAL SEPTEMBER 19, 2026

TAILS AND TIRES SHOW



10AM - 2PM



**RICE LAKE SPEEDWAY
200222 1/2 AVE, RICELAKE**



ADMISSION: FREE!



**CARS, TRUCKS, UTVS, MOTORCYCLES,
RACE CARS, GO KARTS ALL WELCOME**



**RAFFLES, SILENT AUCTION,
BOUNCY HOUSE, AWARDS,
AND FOOD!**

Fun for the Whole Family!

**All proceeds benefit the
Humane Society of Barron County**