

Local U.S. Veterans Needed

Our local United States Veterans are needed once again. Only this time, they are needed by the animals of the Washington Area Humane Society.

October 9, 2010, 84 Fitness Center sponsored a **Furry Fall Festival** with the theme "Pets for United States Vets." Everyone had a wonderful time and over \$6,500 was raised.

For more information on the event, see our dog blog at dogparty84.blogspot.com

All of the proceeds went into a special fund at the WAHS known as the "Veterans Fund". Our local veterans can now adopt a dog or cat out of our no-kill, full to capacity shelter at no cost to them, as long as the funds hold out. At any time, donations can be made to the "Veterans Fund" (be sure to mark your check that way) to keep the program going. Wonderful health benefits are associated with owning a pet...both for the animal and the person. It was our idea to honor our veterans and also help the homeless animals...a win/win situation.

The situation at the shelter is heartbreaking. Some of the furry residents have been there over a year and are known as the "veteran" shelter pets. Being a no-kill shelter has limited the number of animals that can be safely taken in and properly cared for. There are many adult pets that would fit easily into a loving home. Some have been passed over many times and feel rejection every day.

If you are a veteran and have been thinking of adding a new furry member to your household, please take this opportunity to adopt from the WAHS free of charge. All of the pets are micro-chipped, spayed or neutered and up to date on shots. There are volunteers willing to answer questions and give suggestions for those who want or need it.

We need to pull together as a community, just as the small group of people did who raised the money for the Veterans Fund. Please give these dogs and cats a chance to be part of a family and not have to spend any more time in a cage waiting for someone to love them.

Please take this first step in being part of the solution in our area. If you can make room for one of these animals or tell a friend of our special Veterans Fund, you would be doing such a great service to our community.

The animals at the WAHS really need your help and they need it **now**.

Speaking for the Shelter Animals,

Suzi Smith

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