

Northwoods Humane Society – Deanna Persson, President

Why spay and neuter your pets? The facts in this article will tell you why. The Northwoods Humane Society has had a proactive approach to help community members have their dogs and cats spayed or neutered. No animal is adopted from NHS unsprayed or unneutered. NHS and area veterinarians support early spays and neuters for puppies and kittens. NHS has a euthanization rate of less than 1 percent. Reasons for euthanization may be terminal illness and suffering, aggression or behavioral disorder that cannot be corrected and makes the animal unadoptable.

Spay and neutering is expensive and necessary! NHS has some donors that give designated gifts for spay and neutering. NHS writes grants for monies, and we do fundraisers.

On Saturday, April 22, 2023, the Northwoods Humane Society will be hosting a Spay-Ghetti and No Balls Dinner. The event is sponsored by Coburn's Marketplace Foods and will take place at the Hayward Veterans Community Center. The event will include a pasta dinner, baking contest and dessert silent auction. Tickets sold in advance are \$15 for adults and \$7 for children under 10; tickets sold at the door are \$20 for adults and \$10 for children under 10. Advance tickets may be purchased at the NHS Thrift Shop, NHS Shelter and Art Beat of Hayward after April 1.

NHS is seeking bakers that love to make fresh, mouth-watering baked goods!

There is no fee for bakers to submit and each baker is asked to submit 2 of the same recipe in disposable containers (1 for judging and serving and 1 for the silent auction). Trophies and ribbons will be awarded. Baked Goods silent auction will take place after the winners are announced at the dinner.

There are five categories: Pies, Cakes, Other, Youth 16 and under, and Professional. Registration forms and rules may be downloaded at

<https://www.northwoodshumanesociety.org/events--fundraisers.html>

All proceeds from the event will go to our spay and neuter outreach programs and for shelter animals.

### **ACCORDING TO THE ASPCA:**

- Approximately 7.6 million companion animals enter animal shelters nationwide every year. Of those, approximately 3.9 million are dogs and 3.4 million are cats.
- Each year, approximately 2.7 million animals are euthanized (1.2 million dogs and 1.4 million cats).
- Approximately 2.7 million shelter animals are adopted each year (1.4 million dogs and 1.3 million cats).

- About 649,000 animals that enter shelters as strays are returned to their owners. Of those, 542,000 are dogs and only 100,000 are cats.
- Of the dogs entering shelters, approximately 35% are adopted, 31% are euthanized and 26% of dogs who came in as strays are returned to their owner.
- Of the cats entering shelters, approximately 37% are adopted, 41% are euthanized, and less than 5% of cats who came in as strays are returned to their owners.
- About twice as many animals enter shelters as strays compared to the number that are relinquished by their owners.

### **FACTS ABOUT PET OVERPOPULATION IN THE U.S.:**

- It is impossible to determine how many stray dogs and cats live in the United States; estimates for cats alone range up to 70 million.
- The average number of litters a fertile cat produces is one to two a year; the average number of kittens is four to six per litter.
- The average number of litters a fertile dog produces is one a year; the average number of puppies is four to six.
- Owned cats and dogs generally live longer, healthier lives than strays.
- Many strays are lost pets that were not kept properly indoors or provided with identification.
- Only 10% of the animals received by shelters have been spayed or neutered, while 83% of pet dogs and 91% of pet cats are spayed or neutered.
- The cost of spaying or neutering a pet is less than the cost of raising puppies or kittens for a year.

### **Date to Save:**

- March and April – bingo is coming to Powell's – dates to be announced
- April 22 – 5 – 8 p.m. Spay-ghetti and No Balls Dinner and Baking Contest