

P E T P A L S

Pitter Patter Newsletter

September 2019

CELEBRATING PAW POWER!

Nobody knows better than P.E.T. P.A.L.S. volunteers the power four paws, big or little, can bring when visiting someone who needs extra love and attention. On October 14, we will celebrate "Paw Power" with the annual P.E.T. P.A.L.S. Volunteer Appreciation Dinner at the Waterloo Center for the Arts.

Pulled pork sandwiches will be provided by P.E.T. P.A.L.S. along with a vegetarian option. Those attending are asked to bring a salad, dessert, appetizer, or side dish to share. Drinks and table service will be provided. Please arrive by 5:45. Serving will start promptly at 6:00.



We are very fortunate this year to have Dr. James Kenyon as our speaker. He will share his experiences in caring for sled dogs during the Iditarod trail race in Alaska. This is an annual long-distance sled-dog race held in early March from Anchorage to Nome.

You do not need to be an active P.E.T. P.A.L.S. member to attend. As always, we want current and former members, people who are considering joining, and those who are friends of P.E.T. P.A.L.S. to attend.

We need those attending to make a reservation. This can be done by e-mailing petpalsnews@gmail.com or by calling (319) 610-7379. Leave your name, the number of people attending, and how many pulled pork sandwiches or vegetarian options are needed. **Reservations must be made by October 7.**

WELCOME NEW VOLUNTEERS

The following people have participated in training and their pets have passed their temperament evaluations. Welcome to P.E.T. P.A.L.S., everyone!

- Brody Adair and her dog, Murphy
- Lindsey Crisp and her dog, Max
- Anita Kabele and her dog, Charlie
- Megan Swotek and her dog, Drake

STURGIS FALLS '19

P.E.T. P.A.L.S. had a beautiful day for our booth at Sturgis Falls. We sold a large variety of items made by our members. It was great to see so many people stop by.



OUR ONE-TIME VISITS ARE VERY "PAW-PULAR!"

— A Message from Diane Hensley

One-time visits by P.E.T. P.A.L.S. and their furry family members have become increasingly paw-pular! When I started in this position, we had 5-6 one-time visits or so a year. Now, the number has increased to 2-3 times that many, which is great! We are especially popular on the UNI campus, and the picture is from our Up With Families event in April 2019. If interested in being added to the list for one-time visits, contact me at catlady50703@yahoo.com or text at 231-9578.

SAYING GOOD-BYE

We send our condolences to members on the loss of their pets.

- Denise Sears on the loss of Molly, who visited at Pinnacle Care Center.
- Pam Hammers who lost Lakotah Su. In Pam's words, "Lakotah loved going on P.E.T. P.A.L.S. visits to meet people. She so liked an audience to do tricks for. She was my heart dog and will be missed by many."
- Kathy Matthias as she remembers Peaches: "Peaches was a miniature poodle who was just a natural at greeting people and making them feel happy and loved. She was always very excited to go to the hospital to visit. She was a very smart dog and continued learning tricks throughout her lifetime. She will be missed by many, but especially by me."

CAN YOU LEND A "PAW"?

Our volunteers always go the extra mile to bring joy to our community in so many ways. Here are some additional ways that you can help.

WANTED: READING PALS VOLUNTEERS

Reading Pals is a popular program where children read to animals to practice their fluency and expression. Animals involved need to be calm and willing to sit or lay down by the child. The program will resume at the Cedar Falls Public Library and in Hudson where it was a big success last year. We need volunteers on the first and third Thursdays from 4:15-5:15 p.m. You do not have to participate every month, depending on the number of volunteers available. Those who are interested in joining or who would like to try it out should contact Jan Thompsen at thompsenj@q.com.

WANTED: PET PALS VISITORS

We currently have several facilities in need of visitors. Please consider adding one to your schedule. The residents miss having visits and would so much appreciate interacting with an animal to brighten their day.

- Pinnacle Care Center-Cedar Falls
- Nation Cottage on Caraway Drive in Cedar Falls
- Newel Post-Day visit -on Tiffany Pl. in Waterloo
- North Star Head Injury-Canterbury Ct., Waterloo
- North Star Community Services-University Ave.

Contact Jan Thompsen at thompsenj@q.com.

PICNICKING WITH PALS

Good times, good food, and fantastic weather made our P.E.T. P.A.L.S. picnic at Peiffer Park in Cedar Falls on Aug. 8 awesome! We just sat around and chatted about how it would be fun to play the lawn games together.



AN EXTRA SPECIAL “TAIL”

— Shared by Diane Hensley



Here is a “tail” of a touching surprise and an extra special visit. First, the surprise. I’ve used Chewy.com for quite a while now and have found their service exceptional. Last fall, out of the blue, I received an original painting of each of my five fur babies from them (done from pictures I had shared in their photo gallery). Later when I lost my cat, Maui, I received a beautiful bouquet of pink roses from them.



Now on to the extra special visit. On Oct. 24, 2018, Terry Hertges and I met at Mercy One to visit the Behavioral Health Unit. I brought Koji and Kiwi (aka “The Twins”) and Terry brought her dog. We visited two young ladies in the Juvenile Unit and a number of patients in the Adult Unit. As we were leaving, we met one of the Life Flight crew headed to supper.

When she realized we had two cats in the stroller, she asked if we’d visit the rest of the crew. The tired twins perked up when they realized we were headed some place new. What an exciting end to our visit that evening!

VISITING SCHEDULE

If you would like to volunteer at a location, please contact the team leader listed below. You can visit more than one facility.

SITE	CONTACT	PHONE
CEDAR FALLS HEALTH CARE CENTER	Mavis Floss	240-5800
CEDAR VALLEY PRESCHOOL-CHILD CARE (day visit)	Jon McNamee	243-0515
DENVER SUNSET HOME	Jan Thompsen	234-8396
FRIENDSHIP VILLAGE	For information	610-7379
HARMONY HOUSE	Sue Lund	233-3624
LA PORTE CITY NURSING & REHAB	For information	610-7379
MANOR CARE	Mavis Floss	240-5800
MERCY ONE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH & REHAB	Diane Hensley – 236-3491	
NEW ALDAYA LIFESCAPES	Rachelle Yousefi	277-7418
NEWEL POST (day visit)	Cheryl Gulden	274-9077
NORTHSTAR COMMUNITY SERVICES	Terry Hertges	239-6865
NORTHSTAR HEAD INJURY	Cheryl Gulden	274-9077
NORTHCREST SPECIALTY CARE	For information	610-7379
PILLAR OF THE CEDAR VALLEY (FORMERLY COUNTRY VIEW)	Jan Thompsen	234-8396
PINNACLE SPECIALTY CARE	For information	610-7379
RAVENWOOD HEALTH CARE	Sue Lund	233-3624
ROSEWOOD ESTATES	Sue Lund	233-3624
THE ROSE	Jan Thompsen	234-8396
UNITYPOINT-ALLEN MENTAL HEALTH/REHAB	Kathy Matthias	235-7667
WAVERLY HEALTH SERVICES	For information	610-7379
WESTERN HOME COMMUNITIES		
MARTIN CENTER	Jan Thompsen	234-8396
STANARD CENTER	Jan Thompsen	234-8396
THALMAN SQUARE	Rita Lynn	277-4212
THUESEN COTTAGE	Jan Thompsen	234-8396
NATIONS COTTAGE	Jan Thompsen	234-8396
YMCA	For information	610-7379

Contact any of the above to learn how you and your pet can brighten residents' lives.

P.E.T. P.A.L.S.

P.O. Box 373

Cedar Falls, IA 50613

P.E.T. P.A.L.S. Board of Directors Executive Committee

Chairperson	Jan Thompsen	(319) 234-8396
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Records	Deb Hudspeth	(319) 240-5113
Membership Coordinator	Rachelle Yousefi	(319) 277-7418
Newsletter Editor	Marcy Seible	(319) 230-4565
One-Time Visits	Diane Hensley	(319) 231-9578
Temperament Evaluation	Sue Lund	(319) 233-3624
Public Relations	Sue Lund Terry Page	(319) 233-3624 (319) 236-3564
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