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# Scrub Your Paws for a Cause means spa day for dogs

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Realtors Jennifer Noser, left, and Kim Ryan towel off Thor, a 9-year-old pug, Sunday in Coralville during the Iowa City Area Association's annual Scrub Your Paws for a Cause Dog Wash. Josh O'Leary / Iowa City Press-Citizen

Written by  
**Josh O'Leary**  
Iowa City Press-Citizen

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Eddie Sobolewski laughed as the team of volunteers hosed down, shampooed and massaged Sarah, his 3-year-old Labrador retriever and corgi mix who was clearly in heaven.

Had she not been standing knee deep in water, Sarah might well have been wading in a puddle of her own doggy drool from the pampering.

"This is better than at home in the bathtub," Sobolewski said Sunday at the Iowa City Area Association of Realtors' sixth annual Scrub Your Paws for Cause Dog Wash.

Behind ICAAR's office on the Iowa River Landing, local Realtors doused and soaped up dozens of dogs in baby pools before toweling them off and handing them back to their owners shaking off those last droplets of water.

"She seems to be enjoying herself," said Sobolewski, who with wife Alison Currie brought Sarah and Thor, a 9-year-old pug.

Proceeds from the event went to the Friends of the Animal Center Foundation, which is the fundraising arm of the Iowa City Animal Care and Adoption Center. For a suggested donation of \$20, dogs received the spa treatment, then had the option of a nail trim and grooming courtesy of workers from Bright Eyes and Bushy Tails Veterinary Hospital.

It was the first year for the dog wash at the Realtors Association's new home in Coralville, and traffic by mid-afternoon lagged a bit behind previous years, when the event was



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held along Highway 1 in Iowa City and sometimes pulled in more than \$3,000.

Coldwell-Banker Realtor Jennifer Noser has been pitching in with the dog wash the past several years. She said she was skeptical when they first started the event that dogs would be on their best behavior long enough for a bath, but they've proven her wrong, she said.

"I never though it could work; I didn't think dogs could come together to be washed," she laughed.

Terri Larson, president of the Realtor association's board of directors, brought 6-year-old Duffy, her rescue dog, in for a scrubbing. First, though, she took him to the dog park to wear him out so he would sit still long enough for a bath.

"This has always been a huge event for the Realtors, and it's always one of the most fun events we do," Larson said. "People love to come down to participate, and dog people are always the greatest people."

Dick Sjolund of Solon was watching as 7-year-old Daisy splashed in the water. It was the first year he had brought his golden retriever to the dog wash, and they both seemed to be enjoying the outing.

"She loves all the attention and all of the people playing with her," he said.

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