

Humane Society for Boone County

SHELTER TAILS

Volume 13 Issue 2

August 2020



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Patrick Loro put together an evening of song to remember King Arthur, a Great Dane companion of Dr. Amanda Falcone.

Playing out of the back of his pickup truck, Patrick sang and entertained people for several hours at the Thorntown Dairy Queen. A total of \$324 was raised for HSforBC by Dr. Falcone and Patrick.

Thank you so very much!

Cover Photo:

J.J. was found as a stray with no other siblings so HSforBC has paired her with another kitten. They get along well. It only took a few days for them to become playmates. She is about 3 months old.

September 19 is
Responsible Dog Ownership Day.

August 26 is **National Dog Day.**

Thank You

In the Boone County People's Choice Awards, HSforBC ranked third in Best Non-Profit and ranked second in Best Service Organization.

Donors honor people with memorial gifts

In recent months, generous donors supported HSforBC with memorial gifts in remembrance of deceased relatives and friends.

Memorial gifts were gratefully received in memory of the following people:

Pat Belcher
Mildred Buzek
Beverly Groth
Michael Hale
Richard Hitch
Lou Johnson
Carlos Miller
Eve Perlstein

Let's stay in touch!

Monthly newsletters are coming soon and will be available by email only. Send us your first name, last name and email address to receive monthly newsletters.

Click [here](#) or send to
hsforbc.newsletters@gmail.com

Boone County Sheriff Animal Control Division

Effective June 1, 2019, under the county ordinance, mandatory ID is required for domestic animals residing in Boone County. This can be in the form of a tag attached to a collar (displaying the owner's name, address and phone number) or a microchip that is properly registered.

New cat facilities opened at shelter in early June

By Mary Ann Garber

June 1 was move-in day for three homeless cats at the HSforBC Shelter. And thanks to a group of talented and dedicated Humane Society volunteers, shelter cats have a new specially designed kennel room to live in while waiting for their forever homes.

The expanded cat room features private space for kitties in seven two-level kennels with window views. There are two cabinets for food and supplies used by volunteers.

On May 29, Dawn Walker, director of Feline Foster and Adoption, and several other cat program volunteers cleaned and stocked the recently constructed kennel room as well as the free roam room and quarantine room.

"We can keep the cats all in one space yet separate so if they sneeze or cough they are not passing their germs to other cats," she said. "They can all see outside, which is nice. There are bird feeders outside the windows. We have work space for our volunteers, and all the supplies for the cats—the food and accessories we use—will be here."

Three volunteers with construction skills built the larger room for cats next to the lobby. Denis Oberg and Bruce Jarrett worked together to construct new walls and a door frame. Kevin Walker helped Oberg install cabinets.

"We're very grateful for our volunteers who helped make this project possible," she said. "Because of the stay-at-home restrictions caused by the pandemic, this was a good time to renovate the cat area. Cats were fostered in homes—not cared for at the shelter—for three months."

Oberg started the renovation in early March after a planning committee chaired by Dr. Amy Rader, a veterinarian and board member, finalized the design.

"We took out one wall and lengthened the other wall then moved the door to the other end of the room to create a secure area for the cats," Oberg said. "We took the cabinets out of the two meet and greet rooms and moved them into the cat room so we have storage in



Tracy Keeler Ridings sanitizes one of seven two-level cat condos in the recently constructed cat kennel room at the shelter on May 29.

there now. Everyone who helped is experienced in construction and volunteered their time. It was great having their help."

Rader said the renovation project was necessary before the shelter could be open for regular business hours.

"I was given the task of looking at our facilities to see how we could improve the function and flow," she said. "Finding a space for a dedicated cat area was one of the top needs. Previously, the cats were [kennelled in small rooms] wherever one or two cat condos would fit or in the open front lobby where they were visible to dogs. We know that housing cats across from each other increases stress and the spread of respiratory illness so the new space had to correct this problem."

Cat facilities continued on page 7

Pet Preparedness

by Brenda Clark

Like most of you, my pets are my family. And with this COVID-19 crisis, I am reminded of the importance of having a plan in place for my pets in case I am no longer able to care for them.

Taking the following steps can help to protect your pet's health and well-being in the event of an emergency:

COVID-19

So far, there is no evidence of people getting COVID-19 from pets. However, there have been a few cases of COVID-19 reported in animals. A 17-year-old dog in Hong Kong that later died, a cat in Belgium and two cats in New York tested positive. These pets were living with infected humans and the timing suggests human-to-animal transfer. The felines showed mild respiratory symptoms and are expected to recover. It has also been reported that some tigers and lions at the Bronx Zoo got the virus from a staff member.

The best place for your pets is at home where they feel comfortable. If you become ill, but are still able to care for your pets, stay at home and keep them with you. The CDC recommends that if you are diagnosed with COVID-19 you should limit the amount of interaction you have with your pets as much as possible.

Identify someone who can help if you are hospitalized or become too ill to care for your pets.

Reach out to neighbors, friends, coworkers or family members who could temporarily take care of them. Family members may be the easiest to get on board with your plan. Many boarding facilities remain open and may be able to provide care. The most important thing is to speak directly with these friends and family members before action is needed.

Prepare a pet emergency kit.

If you find yourself in an emergency situation, having the proper supplies packed and ready will be a great help.

Your emergency kit should include:

Food and treats for up to two weeks.

Name and contact information of the person who can care for your pet.

Name and contact information of a back-up person in case your first contact is no longer able to help.

A leash and collars with ID tags.

A harness if applicable.

Toys, a bed and blankets may be necessary.

A crate or carrier for transport may also be necessary.

Vaccination records and contact information for your veterinary clinic.

Update your pet's microchip information.

Medications and prescriptions with instructions.

Information on feeding schedules, medical issues and behavior problems in case you have to foster or board your pets.

You might also consider having funds set aside to help with any unforeseen expenses, such as boarding or helping the caretaker.

Although your animals may be more comfortable together, be prepared to house them separately.

Not everyone has a personal support system or the financial means to meet the above recommendations. If you have difficulty creating a preparedness response, try reaching out to local shelters and animal service agencies to find out what support is available. During this virus crisis, there may be options of temporary housing for pets, donated supplies, subsidized veterinary services and more assistance available to help people care for and stay together with their pets.

September 13 is
National Pet Memorial Day.

August 17 is **Black Cat Appreciation Day.**

HSforBC partners with ACD to help the community

By Mary Ann Garber

Pet owners in need of assistance received free dog and cat food from Humane Society for Boone County volunteers and Boone County Sheriff's Animal Control Division deputies on March 27 during a drive-through pet pantry at the shelter in Whitestown.

HSforBC partnered with the ACD to provide the outdoor pet food pantry in response to economic hardships caused by the coronavirus pandemic and stay at home order issued by federal and state government officials.

Humane Society volunteers worked with Deputies Hannah Fisher and Nate Davis to distribute 163 bags of dry food and 308 cans of canned food to nearly 30 families in need of pet food during the first drive-through pet pantry.

"My wife just lost her job," a man said as he waited in his car for a deputy to put dog food in the back seat. "We really appreciate this help for our pets."

Susan Austin, an HSforBC board member, said the Humane Society wants to support the community during this unsettling time.

People who need assistance with pet food and were unable to come to the drive-through pantry should call the HSforBC Helpline at 877-473-6722, she said. Pet food donations are also appreciated and can be dropped off on the porch of the shelter at 5366 S. Indianapolis Road.

Austin said Denny Cunningham of Kern Kirtley and Herr Company in Lebanon has donated community cat food to HSforBC for many years, and other generous donors in Boone County include Pet Valu, Petco, Pet Supplies Plus, Jerry's Feed and Tractor Supply Company.

"We use the extra food from what they donate to us for pet pantries so it works out perfectly," Austin said. "I'm grateful that we can help out in the community."

During this ongoing health crisis, Deputy Fisher said, there is a lot of need for assistance with pet food.

"Instead of having a designated pet pantry like we normally do where people come into a building, we did a drive-through operation to increase social distancing and make it as safe as possible for everybody involved," she said. "In these challenging times, people may have less than stable income. We are concerned that if they can't take care of their pets we may see more neglected and abandoned animals. We're trying to keep that from happening."

During April and May, Deputy Fisher and Deputy Davis assisted HSforBC volunteers—all wearing masks and practicing social distancing—with the outdoor distribution of free dog and cat food to pet owners in need of help on four dates at the Tractor Supply Company (TSC) parking lot in Lebanon.

Pet food given to people in 55 cars during the drive-through community assistance event there on April 10 provided multiple meals for 97 cats and 116 dogs. On April 24, people in 44 cars received pet food for 69 cats and 77 dogs. The May 8 drive-through pantry at TSC served people in 61 cars who needed food for 131 cats and 106 dogs. On May 22, people in 39 cars were able to receive free food for 75 cats and 73 dogs.



Deputy Nate Davis carries bags of dog and cat food to a car during a drive-through pet pantry for people needing assistance on March 27 at the shelter.

What it means to volunteer for HSforBC

"From the very beginning of joining this group, I have never felt like a stranger. Everybody has been so helpful and welcoming. But more importantly, I have never seen a more dedicated group of volunteers. The love for these animals is evident every day. They step up. They are there for these animals always—not just the volunteers, the board members too. We are all in this together and that's why it works."

*Janet Fleetwood Robertson
Communications Volunteer
Former Dog Program Volunteer*

"I wish I could encourage more parents to show their children how important volunteering is! It teaches a strong work ethic, responsibility and a caring heart! Drop a [school] sport and come volunteer with us."

*Colleen Gierlach
Talia Gierlach, daughter, age 13
Dog Program Volunteers*

"I started as a volunteer helping my wife during her efforts to trap and rescue homeless cats. My role has expanded since then. We have fostered kittens and helped with cat care at the shelter. We also feed community cats daily. We enjoy helping with fundraising efforts for this dynamic organization. I now realize the importance and the need to help homeless and helpless cats and dogs in our community. It is fun to work with other dedicated volunteers."

*John Garber
Cat Program Volunteer
Communications, Marketing and Fundraising
Volunteer*

"We always look forward to our Sunday dog volunteering [time]. We sometimes go as a family, but mostly my husband and me. We always feel great about getting the dogs outside to run and play, and to sit in their kennels with them and give the love they need."

*Kimberly Chatson
Dog Program Volunteer*

"For me personally, it was time to redirect my focus on life. Too much of my self-worth was measured by my work and climbing the corporate ladder. My emotional bank account was being depleted. Volunteering with HSforBC has helped me get grounded and created awareness that I'm more fulfilled doing something outside of the corporate world. My emotional bank account continues to grow with each success we have. In addition, I'm surrounded by others who have the same passion. From a quote I value, 'Alone we can do things quickly, but together we can take things farther.' We have a great group of supportive and committed volunteers at HSforBC. I'm fortunate to be part of such a great team."

*LeAnn Patterson Melichar
Dog Program Volunteer*



HSforBC volunteer Laurie Durham hangs out with the puppies at an adoption event.

Volunteers continued on page 7

"We got our first foster dog from Humane Society for Boone County in September 2008. I have never been good at caring for a dog in a shelter setting because I know how badly they want to be with a family. So fostering is the next best thing. We are able to bring a dog into our home, help them with certain behaviors, observe how they interact with other dogs, children and cats, and then find them a new home. It is very rewarding to get updates from the adopters—seeing our [former] fosters and how they are thriving with their new families. I love nothing more than getting one foster adopted then going to the shelter and pulling a dog out to bring home and start the foster process over. It brings us joy to see a shelter dog get to run and play with our other dogs, come into our home, and lay near us [and feel] content. They always look like they are smiling again. We have fostered over 80 dogs so no we can't keep them all. But I feel our job is the middleman to help these unwanted dogs become loving members of a new family. We feel very fortunate to be able to foster for such a great organization!"

*Dawn and Bruce Jarrett
Dog Program Volunteers
Cat Program Volunteer (Dawn)*



HSforBC Dog Program volunteer Karrie Nesbit snuggles with Luna, a 6-month-old mixed breed dog, in a shelter kennel. Luna was adopted recently. Dog Program volunteers feed, walk and bathe dogs, clean the kennels and help socialize them in preparation for adoption.

Seeing and hearing dogs or other loud noises also causes significant stress to most cats, Rader said. "The new cat area is a private suite so our felines do not have to see any dogs, and they can relax in a calm environment. We also still have our free roam room where our cats can stretch their legs. The isolation room was updated simply by moving it to a longer room where all the cat condos could be against one wall. The room already had counters and storage [cabinets], which made it perfect for its new use. I think our volunteers will find they have more free time to spend loving on the cats with the new arrangement."



Jayne Copas stacks cans of cat food in a cabinet in the new cat kennel room on May 29 at the shelter.

Our Adorable Adoptables

Visit www.boonecountyhumane.org for information on these and other animals.

If you would like to foster an animal or schedule a Meet and Greet, call

1-877-473-6722 (877-HSforBC) or fill out the form on our website.



Theodore

He is a shy puppy about 4-6 months old. He is a herding breed mix and tries to herd people by nipping at them. He loves to be outside and is working on potty training. He is good with other dogs.



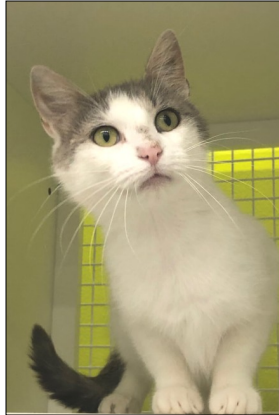
Harley Grace

She is a husky mix and weighs about 50 pounds. Harley is 1 year old. She likes other dogs and kids.



Snuffleupagus

Snuffie is sweet and calm and is heartworm positive. He will need heartworm treatment before his adoption can be finalized. A foster-to-adopt home would be welcome.



Odessa

This sweet angel would love to find her forever family. It's believed that she's at least a year old. She's sweet and loves to play. She does not enjoy being picked up, but will come and cuddle with you. Odessa is available at Petco.



We have kittens



Gill

Gill came in with no other litter mates. He is a spunky boy with lots of energy. He still has a little growing to do, but it won't be long before he's ready to join his new family.

Your donations mean so very much

By Susan Austin

We are often asked what is the best way to donate to Humane Society for Boone County (HSforBC). That's a tough question for me to answer as we have several programs that are near and dear to my heart—Fix a Feral, our endowment and the membership program are just a few. Giving is so personal. We each give for our own reasons and sometimes those are hard to put into words.

Since its inception, HSforBC has received many gifts from thoughtful donors. The results of these gifts are the shelter, food, love and medical care for the homeless, neglected and abused pets in our community. Your much appreciated and thoughtful gifts ensure that compassionate care will be available for homeless dogs and cats in the future.

One-time donations are so very appreciated. We appreciate your willingness to help out when we ask for help to fix a broken leg or treat a heartworm positive dog. Without fail, our community rallies and helps us treat these sick or injured dogs and cats.

To those of you who donate monthly, thank you so much! Your gifts allow us to feed, vaccinate and prepare these pets for new homes. Knowing that you support the work we are doing is truly a priceless gift. PayPal can make monthly donations easy.

Many people in our community make a memorial gift as a testimony to the meaningful life of a beloved relative, friend or pet. Honoring an anniversary, retirement, accomplishment or other major life event is a wonderful way to show your appreciation. Memorial and honorary contributions of any size are beneficial, and may be designated for general use, animal welfare or you may choose to fund a brick. Check out the website for our Bricks to Remember section under the donate tab. A brick is a permanent reminder of your loved one.

When a memorial or honorary gift is received by HSforBC, an acknowledgement letter is sent to you as the donor. We also send an acknowledgement of your gift to the family or honoree. The names of all donors and those honored with memorial or honorary gifts are included in our

quarterly newsletter unless you request that your gift be anonymous.

Have you thought about a membership? HSforBC membership has its privileges! This newsletter and planned future e-newsletters are features of your membership. From youth sized Pup memberships to the larger Protector memberships, you will be notified first about upcoming events like the Fur Ball, Golf Scramble and other big announcements! Just be sure we have your email address. You may send it to hsforbc.newsletters@gmail.com.

Did you know that:

\$5 donation provides for one heartworm test?

\$20 provides the first round of vaccinations to a dog or cat?

\$25 provides for two cats to have FELV/FIV disease testing?

\$50 provides spay or neuter surgery for a cat?

\$100 provides a month of heartworm preventative for all the dogs in the shelter?

\$100 provides spay or neuter surgery and microchip for a dog?

\$250 provides heartworm preventative to 30 dogs in our care?

\$500+ provides treatment for one dog that tests positive for heartworm?

Your donation makes a lifesaving difference for the dogs, cats, puppies and kittens we help at HSforBC. When we combine all the donations made by pet lovers, we are able to help so many of the homeless dogs and cats find their forever homes.

So we hope this thank you note serves as a reminder that you make a difference and we love you for it! It is because of you that Humane Society for Boone County is successful. Our heartfelt thanks go to each and everyone of you for making a lifesaving difference.

All donations to the Humane Society for Boone County can be made by check, credit card or using the DONATE button on our website www.hsforbc.org. Be sure to indicate in the memo section if your contribution is a membership, memorial or honorary gift, and include the name(s) of those people or pets you wish to honor or remember with your donation.



Membership Application

The Humane Society for Boone County (HSforBC) is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that receives no funds from the Humane Society of the United States or ASPCA. We are solely supported by fundraisers, contributions, grants, bequests and adoption fees. Your membership ensures HSforBC can help dogs and cats in need.

Your financial gift stays in Boone County and shows your deep personal commitment to the animals here. Please submit your membership application membership fee online. Or you can print the membership form and submit it along with the membership by standard mail.

Did you know a **\$5** membership provides for one heartworm test?

\$25 will provide for two cats to have FELV/FIV disease testing?

\$50 will spay or neuter a cat?

\$100 will provide a month of heartworm preventative for all the dogs in the shelter?

\$250 will provide treatment to one dog that tests positive for heartworm?

Your membership saves lives!

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

All our members will receive acknowledgment in our newsletter and receive a car window cling decal to proudly show your support of HSforBC. Which membership level is best for you?

Membership Levels

PAWS—\$5 (15 and under)

RESCUER—\$25

SUPPORTER—\$50

GUARDIAN—\$100

DEFENDER—\$250

PROTECTOR—\$500+

Please show my membership donation as anonymous.

Donate to Humane Society for Boone County

We are a private, nonprofit, 501(c)(3), almost entirely volunteer organization dedicated to preventing cruelty to animals. We serve animals and residents of Boone County by providing shelter and compassionate care for abandoned, abused, surrendered and lost animals of Boone County.

Humane Society for Boone County

P. O. Box 708

Lebanon, Indiana 46052

(877) 473-6722 or (877) HSforBC

Visit our website: www.boonecountyhumane.org

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Please accept my gift of: \$25 \$50 \$100 \$250 Other: _____

Secure online donations may be made via Paypal at www.boonecountyhumane.org

Circle Donation Preference:

Medical Services / General / Other _____

One time / or for recurring monthly donations contact us at HSforBC@gmail.com

(Gifts to the Humane Society for Boone County are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Mums for Mutts

HSforBC Shelter

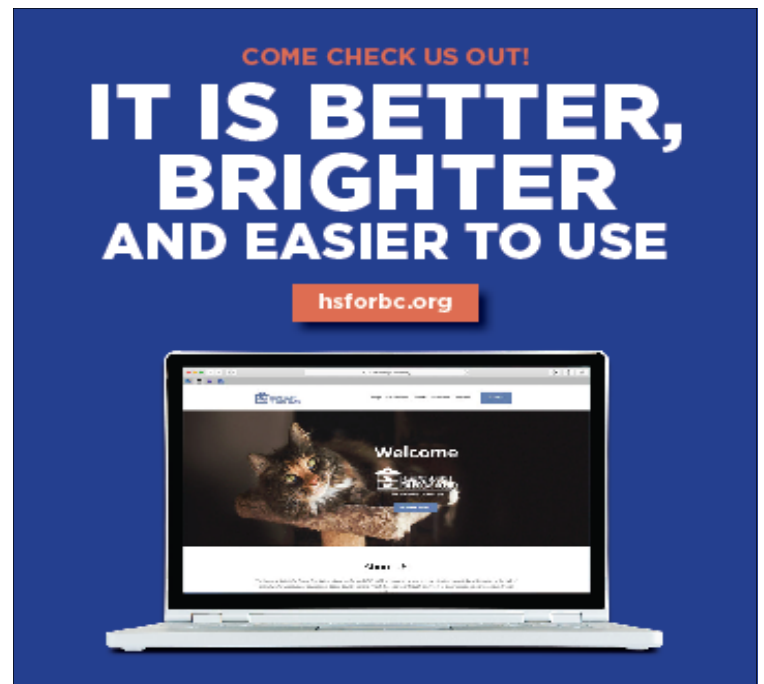
September 14 - 19

Great Pet Expo

To Be Determined

Boone County 4-H Fairgrounds

October 24 - 25





**Humane Society
for Boone County**

P.O. Box 708
Lebanon, IN 46052