



# HUMANE SOCIETY FOR BOONE COUNTY

March 2024



## **In this issue**

**Fur Ball 2024 stories**

**Cat foster experiences**

**Your support matters**

**Pet Pantry assistance**

**Update on Kane**

## 11th annual Fur Ball was a record-breaking success

By Wendy Gabers



Dr. Jon Culbertson, a longtime Boone County veterinarian, and his wife, Paula, were honored as the King and Queen of HSforBC's 11th annual Fur Ball. They own the Thorntown Veterinary Clinic. The Culbertsons and clinic staff members were recognized by HSforBC for their many years of distinguished service.

HSforBC's 11th annual Fur Ball—the "pawpular" Mardi Gras themed fundraiser that helps the Humane Society rescue and care for homeless and surrendered dogs and cats—reached an unparalleled level of success this year thanks to the commitment and generosity of our sponsors and supporters.

Not only did the February 24 event surpass its fundraising goal of \$50,000, this year's Fur Ball more than doubled it by raising over \$101,000!

No Mardi Gras "pawty" is complete without a king or queen reigning over the festivities. Dr. Jon Culbertson, a longtime Boone County veterinarian, and his wife Paula, who own the Thorntown Veterinary Clinic, were crowned the King and Queen of the "pawty." Dr. Jon, as he is affectionately known, and Paula as well as clinic staff members have supported HSforBC from our start in 2007 and continue to help us provide care for many homeless and surrendered dogs, cats, puppies and kittens in Boone County.

The Fur Ball "pawty" was a sell-out and was live streamed on HSforBC's Friends Facebook

site for the first time so more people could participate in the fundraiser.

Following a delicious Cajun style buffet dinner prepared by LA Cafe, supporters enjoyed hearing guest speakers Betsy Smith and Kathy Zimmerman share "pawsitive" animal rescue stories about their volunteer experiences.

Participants also had fun posing in the selfie photo booth as well as bidding on items during the fast-paced live auction, online silent auction and "pawpular" spirits and wine pull.

A special live "Fund the Cause" drive raised much needed donations to provide low cost spay and neuter surgeries.

HSforBC also recognized White Castle Meat Processing Plant employees in Lebanon, who presented a check for \$3,100 earned from their performance based incentive rewards program during 2023.

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## Fur Ball

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Supporters that didn't attend the Fur Ball also participated in the fundraiser by bidding often and enthusiastically in both the largest ever silent and live auctions, which featured a wide variety of unique items and entertainment opportunities thanks to generous auction donors.

Fur Ball corporate sponsors were Denton's Bingham Greenebaum as the presenting sponsor, Zionsville Country Kennel, DR Horton, DKP, Tito's Handmade Vodka, R Riddings Realty and *Zionsville Monthly*.

"We are so extremely grateful to our event sponsors, auction item donors, event attendees and auction bidders who made it possible to meet and exceed our goal to raise funds to provide care for more dogs and cats in need," said Susan Austin, interim executive director. "Our dedicated volunteers are also an integral part in the success of the Fur Ball. Many thanks to everyone who spent hundreds of hours in the planning, organizing and presentation of this 'furbulous' event."

## Dine and Donate



### **Greek's Pizza**

Whitestown

Wednesday, April 3

in house, take out and online  
all day

mention HSforBC

### **El Meson**

Zionsville

Wednesday, April 10

all day

mention HSforBC

**Spring flower basket sales start April 1 at [HSforBC.org](http://HSforBC.org).**

## Cover photo

Beautiful Elsa came to HSforBC as a young stray. Huskies are very active dogs and need opportunities to exercise daily. This gorgeous girl is smart, energetic and playful. Elsa enjoys baths to keep her white fur clean. She also requires a secure fenced yard to run, jump, play with her toys and enjoy the outdoors. Elsa loves to go on walks, does well on a leash, and if you are a runner she will have fun trotting along beside you.

## Cat Program foster cherishes experiences

By Mary Ann Garber



Senior cat Nori was very ill when she was found in a barn then brought to HSforBC on April 25, 2022. The Zimmerman family accepted Nori as a forever foster and she lived nearly two very happy years with them before her death on January 19, 2024.

Seven years ago, Kathy Zimmerman of Zionsville talked with her husband and son then said “Yes” to the Humane Society for Boone County.

Their decision to volunteer as a foster family for HSforBC’s Cat Program meant saying “Yes” to socializing two scared semi-feral cats, “Yes” to welcoming a pregnant cat right before the birth of her kittens, “Yes” to staying up all night nursing a sick cat, “Yes” to bottle feeding three orphaned newborn kittens every two hours around the clock for weeks, and “Yes” to providing loving end-of-life care for a frail senior cat with heart and thyroid diseases.

It was a decision that led to many priceless memories over the years and emotional foster stories that Zimmerman shared with Fur Ball participants on February 24 during HSforBC’s annual fundraiser.

“It was so worth it,” she said, blinking back tears. “All of them have been worth it. We’ve learned so much. We’ve taken them in, taken care of them, worried about them and loved them. And then we’ve given them up. And that’s hard. But it’s also the goal. We get them ready to go to their forever homes, and to a [person, couple or] family that will love them as much as we did. And then we take in the next one and start it all over again.”

Senior cat Nori’s story is a beautiful narrative of love, joy and sorrow which illustrates the

incredible gifts that result from saying “Yes” to fostering homeless cats and dogs.

When Nori was found in a barn then brought to HSforBC on April 25, 2022, she was weak, underweight, missing teeth, and suffering from heart and thyroid conditions that would require daily medication for the rest of her life.

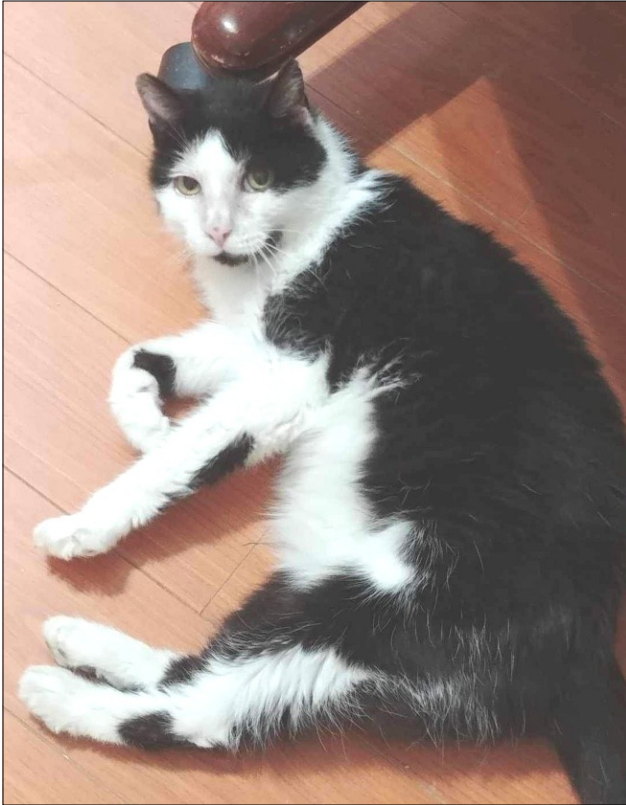
The Zimmerman family said “Yes” to Dawn Walker, Cat Program director, and welcomed Nori into their hearts and home on May 2, 2022.

“At that point, she became our forever foster,” Zimmerman explained, “which means that however long she had left she was going to be with us in a loving home. And we knew she appreciated that. She soaked up the attention and she had the loudest purr. I think she was so happy to be safe and loved again. Between getting plenty of attention, good food and her new medicines, she improved so much, put on weight and was more active. She even started playing again. Her favorite toy was a green catnip fish. She would bat it around, wrestle with it, even sleep with it.”

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## Cat Program foster cherishes experiences

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Nori's health improved with loving foster care and medication. She had a black heart in the fur under her chin.

Nori survived a surgery to remove several cysts, but in January her health started failing. She slept more then stopped eating as she neared the end of her life.

On January 19, Zimmerman called the Zionsville Animal Hospital for an appointment and gently put Nori in a cat carrier for her final car ride. As she parked at the veterinary clinic, Nori took her last breath.

"She had passed away on her own just as I turned off the car," Zimmerman said. "The last thing she did was save us all from having to make that decision and follow it through. She went on her own terms."

It was a peaceful passing from Nori's life with her forever family to her new forever home across the Rainbow Bridge.

Dr. Amy Rader, HSforBC's board president and Nori's veterinarian, offered a loving tribute for the sweet black and white kitty.

"Nori, may your indomitable and gentle spirit fly free," she said. "You touched a lot of lives. You will be missed by all who knew and loved you."

## Pet Pantry

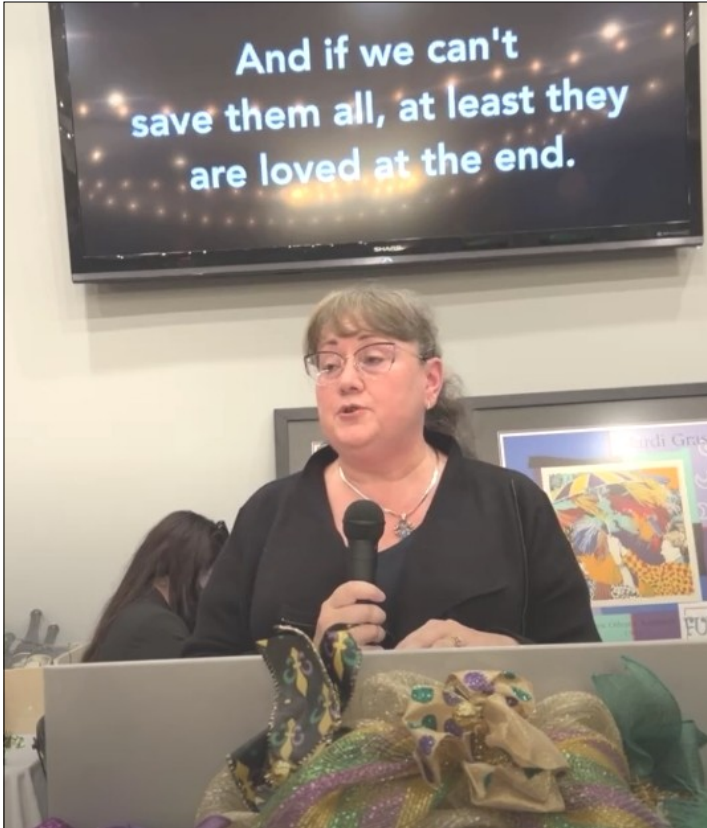
HSforBC understands there are times that money just runs short. Instead of worrying about how to feed your pets, call us at 877-473-6722 and let us know that you need pet food. One of our volunteers will be in contact with you to find out how many and what kind of pets you need help feeding. We can arrange for pet food pickup at the shelter.

HSforBC also provides a monthly Pet Pantry across the street from Volunteer Fire Station #51 at 102 E. Wall Street in Advance on the third Tuesday of every month from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m.

We also partner with St. Joseph Church in Lebanon during their monthly food pantry. The pantry is held from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. on the first Saturday of each month at the church parking lot. St. Joseph Church is located at 319 E. South Street in Lebanon.

## Your support makes it possible for HSforBC to rescue dogs and cats

By Kathy Zimmerman



Cat Program foster Kathy Zimmerman shared Nori's foster story in an emotional speech about the sweet senior kitty on February 24 at the Fur Ball.

Thanks to all the people that are involved with the Humane Society for Boone County.

If there is a chance, we can try. We can try to save them. And if we can't save them, at least they are loved and cared for at the end.

The staff, the medical teams, the volunteers, all the people who get involved and all of you who donate—either throughout the year or by coming out for special events like the Fur Ball—make it possible for us to do what we do.

Everyone who drops off cat litter, food, toys ... everyone who drops money in the donation jar at an event or donates toward medical care for the animals ... everyone that goes out to a "Dine and Donate" or any of the activities throughout the year ... and everyone who's here tonight to have dinner and participate in this fabulous auction ... you are all so deeply appreciated.

If you can volunteer, please do. All the animals at the shelter need to be cared for daily. There's always work to be done to keep them happy and healthy.

If you can foster, please do because more animals in homes means more space in the shelter for others. And being in a home helps make them more adoptable.

If you can't volunteer or foster, please continue to donate because those donations are so important!

We always need food, litter, toys, supplies, cleaning products and items for the auction. We need people to donate for medical care to cover veterinary costs, spay or neuter surgery, vaccinations and other surgeries.

Humane societies are supported by their communities. They don't get money from the state or even from the United States Humane Society. So this is truly our Humane Society.

You know the saying, "It takes a village ...?" Well, it's never been more true than this. So, to all of you, from our Humane Society, thank you!

Donations may be mailed to the Humane Society for Boone County, P.O. Box 708, Lebanon, IN 46052 or by using this secure online link. Thank you so much!

[Donate to HSforBC](#)

## Longtime shelter dog Kane Atlas McFadden is living his best life

By Mary Ann Garber



Betsy Smith and Jeremy McFadden pose for a portrait with Kane to celebrate his adoption. They also have two other rescue dogs, Lily and Magnolia, and a cat named Cookie.

Former HSforBC rescue dog Kane is quite the celebrity! The full-blooded gray and white American Pit Bull Terrier was featured in the news locally on WISH-TV and the front page of *The Indianapolis Star* as well as their online websites. Nationally, the photogenic and goofy dog made headlines in *USA Today*, *The Cincinnati Enquirer*, *Newsweek* and *Apple News*.

His amazing story was also a highlight of HSforBC's annual Fur Ball fundraiser on February 24 with an entertaining video and speech by Dog Program volunteer Betsy Smith about how she and her husband, Jeremy McFadden, adopted HSforBC's longest shelter resident last October.

Kane came to HSforBC on October 8, 2020, after he was found as a young and very large stray in Zionsville then lived at the shelter until his adoption on October 13, 2023. The length of his three-year stay and wonderful adoption by Humane Society volunteers generated lots of media attention last year.

"His behavior demonstrated obsessive compulsive guarding issues," Smith explained, "and in order to keep him and volunteers safe after some incidents strict procedures were put in place. Volunteer handlers were limited, and training and medical experts were brought in to assist over the years of his stay. He remained at the shelter for 1,129 days where he was given specialized care that was both intense and expensive."

If given the opportunity, Kane will eat anything so he needs constant monitoring when not in a safe environment.

"Kane has a mental fixation that causes extreme resource guarding which led him to situations that required multiple surgeries due to ingestion of inanimate objects," Smith said. "His brain tells him that he needs to eat his resources to protect them. Thank you HSforBC for getting him those surgeries to save his life, and keeping him protected and cared for until he found his family."

As the months passed, they felt called to adopt the shelter's longest resident. Now Kane Atlas McFadden is a pampered pet who has a large kennel to keep him safe when he isn't with Smith or McFadden as well as his own television so he can watch "Dog TV." His beloved Betsy and Jeremy bought him a stylish canine wardrobe and comfortable dog bed that he can't consume when alone. He enjoys a special allergy diet of rabbit-based dog food plus his favorite treats of ice cream, bananas and cool ranch flavored taco chips. And best of all, Kane knows the meaning of unconditional love and acceptance.

## Senior cat Liberty is waiting for her forever home

By Tiffany Byers



Sweet Liberty is a senior Tabby girl who loves to be petted and has an endearing personality.

Meet Liberty, the charming feline you may have learned about at the Fur Ball this year. For the past two years, the senior Tabby girl has resided in foster care while patiently awaiting her forever home.

At 10 years young, with her endearing and affectionate demeanor and the sweetest meows, Liberty will capture your heart from the moment she meets you.

Liberty has special food and requires medicine every other day so she would do best in a home with no other pets.

She was among the cats and dogs featured in short stories placed on the tables during the Fur Ball.

"A lot of people pass me by," Liberty's narrative explained. "I am a sweet, petite female who loves being petted. I have so many years left in my life and only wish there was someone special just waiting for me in theirs. Once I get over being shy around you, I will love you forever!"

If you're seeking a loyal and loving companion to brighten your day, look no further than Liberty. If you're interested in meeting this pretty girl, fill out a Meet and Greet form at [hsforbc.org](http://hsforbc.org) under the Adopt and Available Cats links.

## 2024 HSforBC Calendar

**2024 CALENDAR**

**RESCUED**  
2024 12 Month Calendar

Thank you for your support!

ALSO ON SALE AT OUR EVENTS OR AT THE SHELTER BY APPOINTMENT

A Great Gift for the Animal Lovers in Your Life!

For the eighth year in a row, we are offering our calendar of recently adopted and still available rescue animals of Boone County. Each month is filled with animal holidays so you can celebrate your pets all year long! For an appointment, call 877-473-6722 (677-HSforBC).

Order online at [HSforBC.org](http://HSforBC.org)  
**Just \$10** plus shipping

A Special Thank You to **tactive**  
Proud Sponsor of the 2023 HSforBC Calendar

**HUMANE SOCIETY FOR BOONE COUNTY**

For the eighth year in a row, we are offering our calendar of recently adopted and still available rescue animals of Boone County. Each month is filled with animal holidays so you can celebrate your pets all year long.

You can order online by going to [www.hsforbc.org](http://www.hsforbc.org) then scrolling down to the calendar.

Or you can click [here](#).



## Neglected then abandoned dogs find happy ever after homes



A bedraggled family of five badly neglected then abandoned dogs who were dumped at a Boone County residence last September all found wonderful homes after the finders contacted HSforBC for help. "The Mops"—as they were nicknamed because of their very long and terribly matted fur—needed veterinary care and professional grooming as well as behavior training by Dog Program volunteers. In the bottom right photo are Cedar, top left, Libby, bottom left, then Larson, Swiffer and Bona, who all looked like different dogs after their professional grooming sessions. Libby, a black female Terrier mix, and Larson, a tan male Terrier mix, were adopted together. All the dogs were professionally groomed, and the photos show their amazing transformation from muddy mutts to HSforBC rescues to beautifully groomed dogs now living in loving forever homes. Donations from supporters enabled HSforBC to provide neuter or spay surgery, vaccinations, lab tests and socialization to prepare them for adoption.



## Donors honor people and pets with gifts to HSforBC

HSforBC supporters sent memorial donations in remembrance of these beloved pet companions:

In memory of Socks, Tiffany Byer's beloved cat, with much love  
from the TE team at Ascension  
In loving memory of Nori

Donors recently gave HSforBC gifts in honor of the following friends and loved ones:

Taylor Johnson, 2023 Snowflake Princess Contestant  
Ady Culley, 2023 Snowflake Princess Contestant  
In honor of Jerry Hols

Donors recently supported HSforBC with memorial gifts in remembrance of friends and loved ones:

In loving memory of Mary Elston  
In loving memory of Peggy Hine  
In loving memory of Lisa Lowe  
In loving memory of James "Jim" Moore  
In loving memory of Chester Nicholas  
In loving memory of Thomas "Mitch" Robertson  
In loving memory of Shirley Sherrill  
In loving memory of Max Wilkinson

Humane Society for Boone County Wishlist				
Cleaning Supplies	Office Supplies	Dogs and Puppies	Cats and Kittens	Misc.
Paper Towels More Paper Towels Garbage Bags (tall kitchen and 55 gallon) Scrub Sponges Antibacterial Hand Soap Clorox Wipes Toilet Cleaner	Stamps Envelopes (#10 size) Letter Size Copy Paper Binder Clips Dry Erase Markers Black Sharpie Markers Packing Tape	Puppy Pads Purina Calming Care Jolly Balls (all sizes) Kongs (large and extra large) Martingale Collars Easy Cheese Cream Cheese Blocks Peanut Butter Bully Sticks Purina Pro Plan Puppy Food (dry) Smart Bones 6' Heavy Duty Leashes Stainless Steel Buckets (6 qt and smaller sizes)	Purina Kitten Chow (dry) Iams Kitten Food (dry and wet) KMR (Kitten Milk Replacement) Powder Forta Flora Probiotics Fancy Feast Kitten Food (wet) Corrugated Scratch Boxes Kitty Litter (clumpable/ scoopable) Pro Plan Adult Cat Food (dry) Kitty Toys Nursing Bottles Washable Pet Beds	Money Gas Cards (for shelter bus) Gift Cards for Pet Stores Paper Lunch Sacks Zip-lock Bags (gallon size and larger) Bird Seed and Bird Seed Bells (cat enrichment) Auction Items for Fundraisers



## Our Featured Adoptables

Visit [www.hsforbc.org](http://www.hsforbc.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.



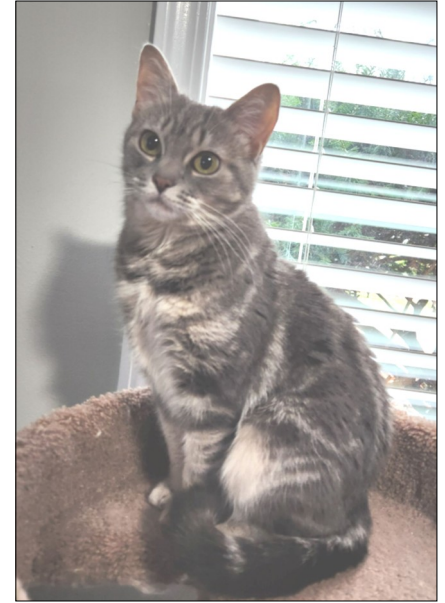
### Josephine

This pretty black panther girl is 1 year old and very sweet. She is active, playful and waiting to meet you at Petco in Whitestown.



### Jambalaya

This pretty 2-month-old gray and white Tabby kitten is very sweet. She will be available for adoption soon.



### Milkshake

Gorgeous Tabby girl Milkshake is about 3 years old and loves people. She is a confident kitty who knows what she likes and will tell you about it.



### Q

This handsome brown and white Pit Bull Terrier mix is about a year old and weighs 80 lbs. He loves to play, and is good with adults and children. He does not like spending time in a crate.



### Apollo

Balls are a favorite toy for this handsome 3-year-old Shepherd mix. He weighs 80 lbs. and is a sweet boy. Apollo loves people, is good with other dogs, and knows how to sit and shake his paw.

## Thank You



Thank you to the ladies of Auxiliary #2062 of the Lebanon Eagles. These donations will help support our kitties and puppies.



Thank you to Girl Scout Troop #3757 for the homemade treats for our doggies. They love them.



Thank you to Stonegate Elementary Preschool and Kindergarten students. Two classes collected all these donations for Zionsville "Do Days."



Thank you to Pleasantview Elementary Universal Preschool students for the wonderful donations.

## Did your pet go missing?

Take these four steps to help find them.

1. Report your pet missing for free at [petcolovelost.org](http://petcolovelost.org).
2. Print free lost pet fliers and share them around your local community.
3. Organize a lost pet search in your neighborhood.
4. Call your local animal shelters and rescues to let them know your pet is missing.



## Thank You

Thank you Amazon Distribution Center in Whitestown. You've done it again and we love you for it! Thanks so much for the awesome donations.



Thank you to the nice couple who wanted to remain anonymous. They adopted a cat from us last year and went on a kitty shopping spree. Your donations are "purrfect."



Thank you to the students at Boone Meadow Elementary School in Whitestown for the lovely donations.

The Humane Society for Boone County Invites You To

# CHANGE THEIR LUCK ADOPTION EVENT



  
HUMANE SOCIETY FOR BOONE COUNTY  
For the Love of Animals

**A shelter animal usually hasn't had the best of luck.**

A best friend is like a four leaf clover, hard to find and lucky to have. Join us at the shelter for this adoption event and find your special four legged new best friend. Change their luck, change your life!

**Saturday, March 23  
11:00 am-2:00 pm  
5366 Indianapolis Rd**

Visit [HSforBC.org](http://HSforBC.org)  
to see more available animals. Fill out a Meet and Greet if there is one you would like to meet.  
(Not all of our adoptables will be at this event.)

Elsa is available at HSforBC.org

# MARCH IS PET POISON PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH

Common Household Items Can Be Deadly



**Dog Poisons:**

- Chocolate
- Mouse and Rat Poisons
- Vitamins and Minerals
- NSAIDs (e.g., ibuprofen, naproxen, etc.)
- Cardiac Medications
- Cold and Allergy Medications
- Antidepressants
- Xylitol (common in toothpaste and chewing gum)
- Acetaminophen
- Caffeine Pills

**Cat Poisons:**

- Topical spot-on insecticides
- Household Cleaners
- Antidepressants
- Lilies
- Insoluble Oxalate Plants (e.g., Dieffenbachia, Philodendron, etc.)
- Human and Veterinary NSAIDs
- Cold and Flu Medication
- Glow Sticks
- ADD/ADHD Meds/Amphetamines
- Mouse and Rat Poison

Click [here](#) for HSforBC Wish List at Chewy.

## ADOPT. FOSTER. VOLUNTEER.

Make a difference for homeless animals.



## **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.hsforbc.org](http://www.hsforbc.org)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Secure online donations may be made via Paypal at [www.hsforbc.org](http://www.hsforbc.org)

Circle Donation Preference:

Building Renovations / Medical Services / General / Other \_\_\_\_\_

One time / or for recurring monthly donations contact us at [HSforBC@gmail.com](mailto:HSforBC@gmail.com)

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