

April 2023



**In this issue:**

**Kitten Season**

**Animal Behavior class**

**Finny enjoys a day trip**

**Open house**

**Volunteer training**

## Kitten Season: HSforBC rescues pregnant cat in time for births

By Mary Ann Garber



This pregnant Tabby cat was rescued by HSforBC just in time to deliver her kittens in a foster home.

Homeless and pregnant, the friendly young Tabby cat walked slowly down the sidewalk. Her abdomen was swollen with the weight of her full-term kittens.

A Lebanon resident saw the cat roaming the streets in her neighborhood and called the HSforBC Helpline for assistance. Feline Program director Dawn Walker quickly reached out to the volunteer cat fosters and was able to arrange foster care on March 29 then rescue the sweet kitty, who she named Alli.

Two days later, Alli delivered six kittens in the safety and comfort of her foster home instead of outside where cold, rainy weather and predators could have harmed her babies.

Kitten Season began in March and HSforBC already has 30 kittens to care for in volunteer foster homes with 25 more kittens scheduled to receive foster care soon, Walker said. Four mama cats delivered

kittens in foster homes during March and April, and one mama kitty came to HSforBC with four babies. One cat's litter was especially large with eight kittens.

In past years, June, July, August and September have been the busiest Kitten Season months, she explained, but this year the number of spring litter kittens is very high. Last summer, HSforBC had 55 kittens in foster care at the same time.

Ten weeks is the average age of adoption after the kittens are spayed or neutered and have received age-appropriate vaccinations as well as socialization, Walker said. When singlet kittens are rescued, they are cared for separately until they are healthy and can join a litter of kittens that are about the same age.

Kitten Season usually starts in April and continues until November, she said, and HSforBC always needs help with donations for veterinary care and gifts of canned and dry kitten food as well as KMR formula.

If a Boone County resident finds a pregnant and friendly stray cat, call the HSforBC Helpline at 877-473-6722 and listen through the recording to leave a message requesting possible assistance which depends on the availability of a foster home.

Whenever possible, kittens should stay with their mama until weaned at about six weeks. If a resident finds a litter of kittens outside but no mama cat nearby, sprinkle flour on the ground around the kittens, leave the area then check for paw prints a few hours later to see if the mama has returned to her nest to nurse them. If not, very young kittens will

*continued on next page*



## Kitten Season *continued*



HSforBC foster cat Alli nurses her six newborn kittens.



Alli's kittens were born in the comfort and safety of an HSforBC cat foster home.

need to be bottle fed every two hours and receive other life-saving care in the safety of a foster home. Older kittens will also need kitten food and special care in a foster home.

HSforBC volunteers can help residents control population growth among stray kitties and community cats by humanely trapping them for TNR—Trap / Neuter / Return—in Boone County. For TNR information and requests for assistance, call the Helpline number listed above and listen through the recording to leave a message.

New fosters are always needed, she said, and receive training and supplies from HSforBC.

"I am usually able to accept kittens from other rescues," Walker said. "This year we have had our own large influx of kittens. Fostering is an important component to the number of kittens and mamas we can help."

*(For information about volunteering as a Cat Program foster, log on to [hsforbc.org](http://hsforbc.org) or call the Helpline.)*

## Cover photo

Joliet has beautiful and symmetrical Calico markings that give her face an unusual foxy look. She will be available for adoption soon.





HUMANE SOCIETY  
FOR BOONE COUNTY

For the Love of Animals

# KITTEN SHOWER

IT'S RAINING KITTENS • HELP US CARE FOR THEM

JOIN US AT PETCO ON  
**April 29, 2023**  
**12:00-3:00**

## SHOWER WISHLIST



### NUTRITION

- Miracle Nipple Mini
- Small Animal Nursing Bottle/Kit
- Kitten Milk Replacer (KMR)
- Dry Kitten Food  
(Same as Purina Preferred)
- Wet Kitten Food  
(Fancy Feast, Iams, Purina Preferred)
- Shallow Food Dishes



### NURTURE

- Snuggle Safe Heating Disk
- Digital Thermometer
- Heating Pads  
(Does Not Auto Shut Off)
- Unscented Baby Water Wipes
- Receiving Blankets
- Yesterdays News Litter
- Velcro Puppy/Kitten Collars



### TOYS

- Mice Toys
- Mylar Crinkle Balls
- Plastic Cat Springs
- Jingle Balls
- Songmics Cube Set
- Cardboard Scratchers



FOOD • GAMES • PHOTO WALL • PRIZES • KITTY ADOPTION EVENT



6298 Mills Drive, Suite 300  
Whitestown, IN 46075



[HSforBC.org](http://HSforBC.org)

## Animal Behavior Management class helps volunteers

By LeAnn Melichar



HSforBC Dog Program volunteer LeAnn Melichar works on behavior training with a shelter dog.

At the beginning of this year, I had the privilege of participating in an eight-week online Animal Behavior course made possible through a grant obtained by executive director Susan Austin from The Sandra S. Powell Trust. The course, Animal Shelter Behavioral Management, hosted through the University of the Pacific, centered on shelter animals, delving into topics such as body language, stress identification, enrichment strategies, aggressive behavior comprehension and training methods. The weekly workload consisted of approximately 8-10 hours a week of homework and consisted of lectures, reading material which included research studies, white papers, videos, Q&A and lots of writing. My class was comprised of 60 people, all in the rescue or shelter environment, some volunteers, others were employees of an organization, and we had people from all over the U.S. Upon successful completion of the class, we earned a certification in Animal Shelter Behavior Management.

This was a great learning opportunity and an eye opener from beginning to end. As a volunteer with no training, gaining a deeper understanding of animal behavior and their ability to adapt to their environment was crucial. I had the privilege of learning about the strong influence that a shelter stay's duration can have on a dog's or cat's prospects of finding a forever home, be it a speedy adoption or a successful long-term placement.

Dogs that find themselves in a shelter, either as strays or surrenders, invariably experience stress to some degree while on-site. This stress can either dissipate or escalate over time depending on the individual animal's disposition and circumstances. The experience of being brought into an unfamiliar environment and placed in a noisy kennel can be particularly taxing for strays as they are accustomed to roaming. Meanwhile, surrendered animals may continue to search for their owners for several days. Overall, they may become excessively frustrated due to limited options and become extremely fearful or possibly aggressive, potentially leading to anxiety-related behaviors such as circling, chasing tail and panting.

Now the dog volunteers are applying various methods taught in this class to help minimize the level of stress animals endure in the shelter. Some of what we're doing includes positive reinforcement clicker training and enrichment programs. We have an ongoing "click for quiet" training initiative that has already yielded positive results as our dog handlers have made significant progress in training the dogs to sit quietly when we are in the kennel area.

To provide our dogs with more choices, we have implemented an enrichment program that offers daily mind-engaging activities. These activities can include puzzle feeders, treat boxes, "find it" games or treats in a plastic pool filled with colored plastic balls. Additionally, we play soothing music in the kennel area during the day, provide specific dogs with social

*Continued next page*

## Animal Behavior class *continued*

playtime together, and our volunteers take individual dogs to a peaceful room for some one-on-one time where the dog can play, relax or just hang out with the volunteer. We are also planning to incorporate more sensory enrichment activities, such as scent of the day, bubble blowing and hopefully reading programs.

Despite the need for further progress, our volunteers have made significant advancements with clicker training and keeping the dogs engaged. Overall, our goal is minimizing the length of stay for our animals and increasing their chances of finding a loving home by providing a calmer and more positive environment. I'm very thankful for the opportunity to broaden my understanding and awareness of what shelter animals go through as well as to establish a network of professionals in the shelter field to seek advice and insights from. Thank you HSforBC for providing this opportunity and the overall support of the enrichment and training programs. A huge thank you to the volunteers for all their hard work in making it happen. It does take a village!

## Dine and Donate



### **Pub at Anson**

Thursday, April 27

### **El Meson**

Wednesday, May 10  
all day

### **Noble Roman's in Whitestown**

Thursday, May 18

### **1830 Chophouse in Lebanon**

Tuesday, June 27

### **Amore in Zionsville**

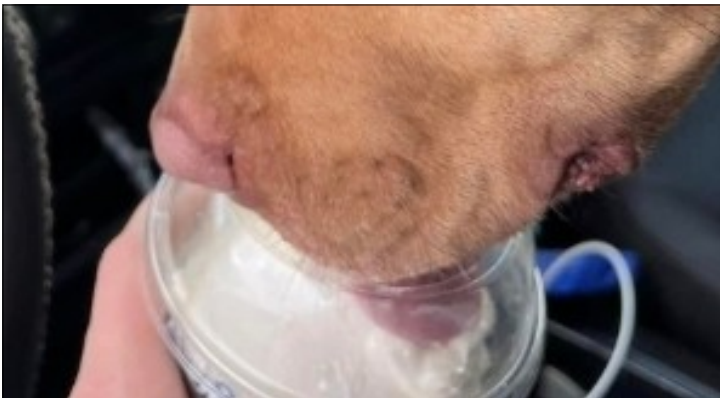
First Tuesday of each month  
11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

***Be sure to mention  
you are supporting HSforBC.***



## Finny enjoys a nature hike and shopping trip

Finny, an affectionate and playful Pit Bull Terrier who has lived at the shelter for a year, had fun with a volunteer during a recent nature hike at Eagle Creek Park. Afterward, they went shopping at Petco in Whitestown and enjoyed ice cream from Culver's. Outside day trips are enrichment for our shelter dogs and help reduce stress. Finny has potential with other dogs, but has not been dog tested at the shelter. He is an active dog that needs a home with adults and / or older children and a fenced yard.





## HSforBC welcomes visitors to shelter open house

Humane Society for Boone County staff members and volunteers were excited to host a shelter open house on April 22 with tours of the renovated dog and cat facilities. More than 100 people enjoyed a behind the scenes visit to the kennels, clinic, meeting rooms, catio and dog isolation expansion.





## Volunteer training



HSforBC staff members and volunteers attended the Indiana Animal Welfare Conference on April 1 in Indianapolis and were joined by their friend Hannah Fisher, front center, former Boone County Animal Control Officer and now director of Animal Welfare Operations for the Indiana State Board of Animal Health. With Fisher are Dawn Walker, front left, Feline Program director, and Christy Brubaker, front right, Canine Program director. In the back row are, from left, executive director Susan Austin, volunteer manager Jackie Nowinski and clinic volunteer Patty Healy.



Not only do they leap closed gates in a single bound, they spend their Saturdays learning about First Aid for Dogs! Dr. Amy Rader, volunteer veterinarian and Board President, held two First Aid for Dogs training sessions for our dog volunteers and fosters, and provided take home first aid kits for the foster families to have on hand. We have the BEST volunteers! Thank you all!



Our Dog Training group reviewed basic behavior training with LeAnn Melichar.



HSforBC executive director Susan Austin attended the Animal Care Expo in New Orleans.



## Upcoming events

### **Petco Kitten Shower**

Saturday, April 29  
noon to 3 p.m.  
Games, fun and kittens!

### **Pets for Patriots Adoption Event**

American Legion in Lebanon  
Saturday, May 13  
3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

### **Shred Day at UPS to benefit HSforBC**

Boone Village  
Saturday, May 13  
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

### **Golf Scramble**

Golf Club of Indiana  
Monday, May 15

[HSFORBCgolfs scramble.givesmart.com](http://HSFORBCgolfs scramble.givesmart.com)

### **Zionsville Farmer's Market**

Saturday, May 27

## HUMANE SOCIETY FOR BOONE COUNTY GOLF SCRAMBLE

Fore The Animals!

MONDAY MAY 15, 2023

10:30 CHECK-IN/WARM UP/LUNCH  
12:00 SHOTGUN START  
AWARDS FOLLOWING FINAL PLAY

Foursomes \$500 until May 10  
\$550 May 11-15  
Register and bid on auction items  
at [HSforBCgolf.givesmart.com](http://HSforBCgolf.givesmart.com)

Online  
Auction

Opens May 9-  
Ends Noon May 17

You do not need to be a  
registered golfer to bid!





For the Love of Animals

Individual Hole Sponsor \$250 (\$200 with a foursome) Call Now!

OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS

<p style="font-size: 8px;">Leader Board</p>  		<p style="font-size: 8px;">Hole in One</p>  		<p style="font-size: 8px;">Food</p>  				
<p style="font-size: 8px;">Closest to Pin</p> 		<p style="font-size: 8px;">Longest Drive</p> 		<p style="font-size: 8px;">Beverage</p> 				
<p style="font-size: 8px;">Divit Fixer</p> 	<p style="font-size: 8px;">Golf Ball</p> 	<p style="font-size: 8px;">Welcome &amp; Warm Up</p> 	<p style="font-size: 8px;">Beverage Carts</p> 	<p style="font-size: 8px;">Awards</p> 	<p style="font-size: 8px;">On-Course Tasting</p> 	<p style="font-size: 8px;">Media</p> 	<p style="font-size: 8px;">Print</p> 	<p style="font-size: 8px;">Course Challenge</p> 

Questions? Call 877-473-6722 Email [hsforbc@gmail.com](mailto:hsforbc@gmail.com) · [hsforbc.org](http://hsforbc.org)

## 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.



## Boone County Animal Control

**Office:** 765-482-1412, option 4

**email:** [animalcontrol@co.boone.in.us](mailto:animalcontrol@co.boone.in.us)

**website:** <https://www.boonecountyindianasheriff.com/divisions/animal-control/>

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1754434438198357>



# COME SEE US

May 13, 2023 • 10:00 AM-1:00 PM



## Shredding\*

Come to The UPS Store for a shredding day.

Bring your business and personal documents shred 100 lbs for FREE\*\*



49 Boone Village  
Zionsville, IN 46077

### Drop Off Much Needed Kitten and Puppy Food Donations

Want to help the homeless animals in Boone County? The shelter is in need of Fancy Feast canned wet kitten food, Purina Kitten Chow and Purina Pro Plan puppy food.

We will have volunteers on hand to answer questions on adopting, fostering, volunteering or on the Humane Society for Boone County in general.

For more information on HSforBC visit

[HSforBC.org](http://HSforBC.org)



HUMANE SOCIETY FOR BOONE COUNTY  
For the Love of Animals

WHITESTOWN PARKS AND RECREATION



Thursday, May 11 2023

## DOGS & BREWS

What Could Be Better?!

Grab your doggo and enjoy a night out socializing with other people and pups. Cool down with an adult beverage and mingling with local businesses and pet-related vendors.

The Whitestown Parks and Recreation Department is excited to host Humane Society for Boone County and bring awareness to our cause. We will have shelter information and some of our adorable adoptables.

Join us at Gateway Park 5:30-7:30 for the fun. This event is free to attend, and adult beverages will be available for purchase.

Visit [HSforBC.org](http://HSforBC.org)



### Humane Society for Boone County Wishlist

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



HUMANE SOCIETY FOR BOONE COUNTY



## Thank You



Members of a Daisy Girl Scout Troop in Zionsville visited the shelter recently to learn about how the Humane Society for Boone County provides care for rescued dogs and cats. HSforBC appreciates the opportunity to educate future pet owners.



Thank you to the volunteers from Seven Corners for your donations and a day of service. We appreciate your hard work and can do attitude.

Thank you to the Zionsville Middle School National Junior Honor Society students and their sponsors Caitlyn Palmer and Bekka Hamburg for the wonderful donations for the cats and dogs.

Miles asked his friends and family to donate to HSforBC for his 8th birthday. Thank you Miles. Purrfect timing!

Thank you to the third-grade students at Pleasant View Elementary School. Mrs. Westfall's class made fleece blankets for the puppies.



Kiera Bright and her friends from University High School in Carmel helped HSforBC get ready for an open house for volunteers in March. The shelter is so clean and organized now thanks to their hard work. You are all awesome!

## Thank You



**KROGER  
COMMUNITY  
REWARDS**

**YOU** +  =  \$\$\$

Support **HSforBC** while you shop!  
Enroll in **Kroger Community Rewards**  
Use code **SI396** to register your Plus Card  
[krogercommunityrewards.com](https://www.krogercommunityrewards.com)



Thank you to Kroger and to the Kroger shoppers. You raised more than \$845 for HSforBC during the first quarter of 2023 with Kroger Rewards.

Thank you Michael Burtron for the donations. We greatly appreciate your gifts for the cats and dogs.



Thank you to Lindsey and other third-grade students who are members of Girl Scout Troop #3832. They came to the shelter recently for a tour and educational presentation.

## Donors honor people and pets with gifts to HSforBC

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

David Duff  
Ronald Hysong  
Anthony Martin  
Marc Oliver

Donors recently gave HSforBC gifts in honor of the following pets:

Hermes the dog

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

Mr. Duffy V, beloved dog of Marjorie Padgett  
Emma, a good dog  
Diesel the dog  
Ollie Howard

Donors recently gave HSforBC gifts in honor of the following person:

Benjamin Smithka, in honor of his 6th birthday

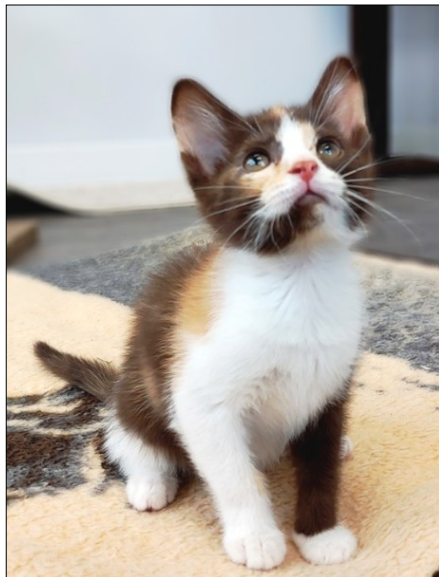


## Our Featured Adoptables

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.



These kittens and others featured on the website at [hsforbc.org](http://hsforbc.org) are available for adoption or will be available soon. Peeta, left, is a 2-month-old Tabby boy who is ready for his forever home. Chicago, center, a pretty Calico girl, and her sister, Joliet, a Calico kitten who is featured on the cover, will be available for adoption soon. Haymitch, right, is a gray 2-month-old boy who is available for adoption now.



**Cullen**

This very sweet boy is 11 months old and weighs 80 lbs. He has recovered from a broken leg and is an active puppy who needs a fenced yard. He likes other dogs but needs a proper introduction.



**Beans**

Beans is a darling 3-month-old male. He is a Shar Pei and Jack Russell mix, and has the cutest facial expressions.



What a joy (and relief) it is to have shelter renovations complete! While there are a few little touches that need finished, we were so happy to show more than 100 supporters around the shelter on Saturday, April 22. Many volunteers helped clean the shelter so we could look our best on Saturday. Our beloved cat and dog volunteers provided tours for a behind the scenes look at a day in the life at the shelter while showing off the renovations, catio and dog isolation expansion.

Last week was also Volunteer Appreciation Week and we took the opportunity to share some surprises and treats with our volunteers to let them know how very much we appreciate the lifesaving work they accomplish! Our volunteers not only care for the cats and dogs in the shelter and in their foster homes daily, answer emails and phone calls. These volunteers also take precious personal time to stay up to date on the latest animal welfare issues, opportunities, knowledge and training to be the best guardians possible for the cats, dogs, puppies and kittens in our care. Without our volunteers, there would be no place to help the lost, stray, abandoned and neglected pets. So if you see a volunteer, please tell them thanks!

Pawsitively yours,

*Susan*

Susan Austin, Executive Director

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## **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 and Expansion Fund / 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.)