



# HUMANE SOCIETY FOR BOONE COUNTY

September 2023



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- Longtime shelter dog is adopted**
- 'Dog Days of Summer'**
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## Senior dog gets a new lease on life as foster with HSforBC

By LeAnn Melichar



Senior dog Dixie was suffering from food allergies and a skin infection when she was surrendered to HSforBC on July 13. Her sores are healing and her fur is growing back now that she has received veterinary care and eats prescription diet dog food.

At first sight, you encounter a small, affectionate elderly Boxer and Pit Bull Terrier mix dog whose friendly nature knows no bounds.

Looking closer, you see she is covered with patchy fur, walking with a limp, her paws are swollen and marred with painful sores, and her nails are painfully long and tender. Sadly, her current owners acknowledged their inability to provide the needed care she requires and had scheduled her for euthanasia at 5 p.m. that day.

However, Dixie's arrival at our shelter at 4:20 p.m. on July 13 was made possible by Christy Brubaker, the Canine Program director, who responded to their plea for assistance. Unfortunately, the fate of countless other pets currently facing surrender at other shelters don't receive the second chance that Dixie did with HSforBC.

Witnessing her arrival, I'll admit how sad I felt as I observed her frightened demeanor while I led her away from the familiar into the realm of the unknown. There was a profound ache in watching her constantly gaze back, wanting to return to what she knew and confused about why it was being left behind.

After the initial assessment by Dr. Amy Rader, a veterinarian and HSforBC's Board president, it

became evident that her primary struggles stemmed from food allergies and an underlying infection. She was promptly given a soothing bath and placed in an isolation kennel, where she captured the hearts of our dedicated dog care volunteers. Day after day, they showered care on her—tending to her paws and providing companionship inside her kennel and during her play and exercise time outside.

After a few weeks, I made the decision to bring Dixie home and foster her. What struck me most were her eyes—so soulful, which reminded me of my previous canine companion, Cami, who was my first foster "failure" because I decided to adopt her.

Dixie now has a quiet space in my room where she can retreat and acclimate at her own pace.

The introduction to my son's 14-year-old dog, Mya, proved to be a gradual process. As anticipated, navigating the waters of personal space and Mya's complex relationship with this newcomer proved challenging. A few weeks were marked by a series of skirmishes, reflective of Mya's uncertainty about this new dog in her space. Eventually, boundaries were respected and the gap between them started to close. Currently, they have learned to coexist better, albeit not without some occasional rumbles.

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## Senior dog

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Pretty girl Dixie looks up at her foster mom, who took a photo of her sweet face.

Dixie has found her footing, is learning our schedules, using the dog door, and doing much better with leash manners. She's on her path to recovery with her skin healing and her fur filling in well. Her paws are returning to normal, and her limp is less frequent every day.

I love her Pitty butt wiggle and smiling face as she welcomes me home. Her energy has blossomed, evidenced by her antelope-like leaps at the mere mention of "breakfast" or "walk." She still possesses a streak of stubbornness, particularly when it comes to the command "sit" which requires a fair amount of coaxing. Overall, Dixie possesses an easy-going nature and simply enjoys being by your side.

The experiences that these animals endure is truly beyond my imagination—uprooted from what they've known, placed in unfamiliar territory and surrounded by unknown faces. Dixie's resilience never fails to astonish me, and I'm extremely grateful for everyone who ensured her comfort and well-being during her time at our shelter.



Dixie loves her new bed at her foster home with LeAnn Melichar.

While the final chapters of Dixie's and other rescue animals' stories might elude us after adoption, it's essential to recognize that we're affecting meaningful change even during the uncertain and overwhelming needs of today. Our collective efforts do resonate far beyond what we see and leave a lasting mark on these animals' lives.

I want to express my deepest gratitude for your ongoing and past efforts. The truth is that it truly does take an entire village, and the HSforBC community is nothing short of extraordinary!

## Cover photo

Grasshopper may be a Rat Terrier mix and is about 10 weeks old. His potty training and crate training are going well. He is living with a child and another dog and is awesome with them. He is playful but not too hyper. He is gentle and loves being with his people. He is still growing, but we think he will weigh under 30 pounds.



# HSforBC volunteer and partner fall in love with longtime shelter dog

By Mary Ann Garber



Sissy Jean gazes adoringly at Wyatt Campbell when he and volunteer Cara Hofer came to the shelter on August 23 to take her home for foster care. He adopted her a week later.



Funny girl Sissy climbed on top of her soft kennel inside her shelter kennel during one of her last days there before her adoption.

Sissy Jean is a very sweet gray Pit Bull Terrier who is dearly loved by all of the Dog Program volunteers. They don't understand why she wasn't adopted and was still living at the shelter for 315 days.

One volunteer loves Sissy so much that she and her partner recently decided to foster her briefly then adopt her.

Volunteer Cara Hofer and her partner, Wyatt Campbell, brought Sissy home to foster on August 23, then he adopted her a week later much to the delight of all the Dog Program volunteers.

"Someone is very happy to be home," Hofer said after Sissy spent her first night with them. She shared a photo of Sissy sound asleep with her blanket and toy on the HSforBC volunteers Facebook site.

"I've always been passionate about animals and knew Sissy Jean was special," Hofer said. "She is gentle, sweet and has so much love to give. Seeing her blossom into her confident self has been amazing to watch and so rewarding. I hope her story encourages others to consider fostering and adopting."

One volunteer said the photo of Sissy in her foster home shows "the joy of helping a shelter dog get out [of a kennel] and live [in a house]."

Another volunteer said "all this time she was just a princess and we never knew. So glad she now has a place that lives up to her standards!"

Other volunteers posted joyful comments like, "Oh my gosh! I literally can't even contain my happiness right now," as well as "I have been in love with Sissy Jean since the day she came in from the jail! Thrilled to see her in a home!"

Some comments recalled when Sissy came to the shelter after being rescued as a stray 10 months ago.

"I remember the night she came in," a volunteer said, explaining that she was "given a bath right away that night because she was so dirty!"

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## Sissy Jean

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A happy Sissy Jean cuddles with her blanket in her new home.

It's hard to understand why rescue dogs like Sissy who are very gentle and loving somehow end up dumped or lost and never claimed by their owners, but HSforBC volunteers do their best to love and train them in preparation for adoption.

A Dog Program volunteer who helped care for Sissy during those 10 months of waiting for someone to choose her posted a comment wishing her a wonderful future. "This is so amazing," she said. "Thank you for giving this sweet girl a home! Happy tears! Love you, sweet girl. Have a beautiful life making your new family so happy!"

Canine Foster and Adoption director Christy Brubaker is grateful for the dedication of the volunteers who make it possible for HSforBC to rescue homeless dogs and puppies.

More fosters are needed, Brubaker said, to help save the lives of other very nice dogs.

Volunteer and foster applications are online at [hsforbc.org](http://hsforbc.org).

A FUNDRAISER FOR THE  
**HUMANE SOCIETY  
FOR BOONE COUNTY**

Annual September  
**MUM SALE**

Purchase Online at [HSforBC.org](http://HSforBC.org)  
August 13–September 7

10"	\$15
12"	\$25
14" /grass	\$40

Colors: Red, Yellow, Pink, Bronze

**Mums for Mutts!**  
Help support the dogs (and cats) at the Humane Society for Boone County by purchasing your fall mums from us. We will be accepting pre-orders with online credit card payment. Additional mums will be available for cash or credit card purchase at the shelter during pre-paid pick up hours.

**Pre-Paid Pick Up**  
September 11–September 13  
12:00 pm–6:30 pm  
September 16  
Sat 10:00 am–1:00 pm  
5366 S Indianapolis Rd, Whitestown



**Pit Mix Fix Expands Footprint to More Counties**

**PIT MIX FIX™**

*\$10 spay/neuters for  
pit mixes and large dogs*

**PET FRIENDLY  
SERVICES OF INDIANA**  
LOVE THEM FOR LIFE

Did you know that Pit Mixes and large dogs are most at risk for euthanasia in shelters? To help these lovable dogs, Pet Friendly Services has launched the "Pit Mix Fix" to help income-qualified owners fix their dogs for just \$10. Thanks to special funding from generous donors, we are now able to expand this program to Jackson, Lawrence, Wayne, Starke, Henry, Hancock, Bartholomew, Boone, Hendricks and Dubois counties!





## Shelter dogs stay cool in the pool during 'Dog Days of Summer'



Kiddie pools aren't just for kids! HSforBC's shelter dogs love them too. Domingo, a gorgeous German Shepherd, and Thor, a handsome Husky, love to play in the water. Toby, a good looking black and white Pit Bull Terrier, is a bit more cautious but will splash in the water in search of hot dog chunks. Exercise times in the dog play yards at the shelter also include games of fetch or seek and find with treats, running laps and watching the wild bunnies through the fence. Domingo, Thor and Toby are available for adoption and would love to play in the fenced yard of their forever home. The Meet and Greet application is posted online at [hsforbc.org](http://hsforbc.org) under the Adopt and Available Dogs links.

## Upcoming events

### Zionsville Lions Club Fall Festival

Saturday, September 9  
11 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Sunday, September 10  
11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

### Mums for Mutts Pre-Paid Pickup

Monday, September 11, through  
Wednesday, September 13  
noon to 6:30 p.m.

### Hops for Hounds

Panther Park in Whitestown  
Thursday, September 14  
5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

### Zionsville Farmers Market

Saturday, September 23  
7 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

### Howl at the Moontown

Friday, October 27  
5 p.m. to 9 p.m.

### 5K-9 Run for Rescues

Saturday, October 28  
10 a.m.  
Starts at LA Café  
ends at Moontown Brewing Company

### Giving Tuesday

Tuesday, November 28

### Whiskerfest

Saturday, December 2  
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

## HSforBC helps truck driver find his lost cat at travel stop

By Mary Ann Garber



Kansas truck driver Timothy Spidel holds his beloved kitten, Pizzelle, on August 14 right after finding him on a weed covered hill at Love's Travel Stop by I-65 in Whitestown.

Miracles and rescues happen in all kinds of places and all kinds of amazing ways. This miraculous rescue happened on August 14 at the busy Love's Travel Stop by Interstate 65 in Whitestown nearly a week after a long-haul truck driver lost his beloved cat during a rest break there.

Back on the road again at 5 a.m. on August 9, Kansas resident Timothy Spidel thought his cat was sleeping as he drove south on Interstate 65 then west on Interstate 70. He had been driving for a few hours and was hundreds of miles away from Boone County when he realized Pizzelle, his 10-month-old kitten, wasn't asleep in the cab of his big rig. Alarmed, he called the HSforBC Helpline and asked for assistance finding his black and white Maine Coon mix cat.

Spidel couldn't return to Whitestown because he had a cargo delivery deadline, and wouldn't be able to drive back to central Indiana for a week. The former Army Ranger—who served in the first Gulf War and was deployed on missions to Somalia, Panama and other countries during the early 1990s—was heartbroken.

Cat Program director Dawn Walker assured him that HSforBC would try to help Love's employees find the Tuxedo kitten. She took a pet carrier to the travel stop, talked with managers and gave them cat food to set up a feeding station. Employees had seen the cat but couldn't catch him.

In between bottle feeding four orphaned newborn kittens, Walker talked with Spidel and Love's employees several times that week. On August 14, she asked my husband, John, and me to meet Spidel at the travel stop with a humane trap and help search for his cat.

Spidel and my husband searched the perimeter of the property, which was covered in tall weeds and brambles on the slope leading up to the interstate ramp. While I called two nearby businesses to ask if they had seen a cat, John walked around the edge of the pavement and rattled a bag of kibble without luck. Spidel was searching nearby. When he called Pizzelle's name, the cat started meowing frantically. Spidel climbed the overgrown hill and quickly scooped up his beloved pet in an emotional reunion.

"When he was in the bushes, I heard him," Spidel said. "He was meowing and I knew it was my cat. He's got a funny meow. But he wouldn't come through those thorns to me. He made me go around to him. When I got up on the hill, he came right to me through the thicket. He was close to the interstate ramp. He's a miracle kitty. I lost him last Wednesday morning. He's been here a week."

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## Truck driver

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Spidel holds Pizzelle inside Dawn Walker's car so she can apply flea medicine to the cat's neck. A steady stream of cars and trucks pass through the travel stop every day so it is a miracle that the kitten was found safe and healthy.

Remembering that morning, Spidel said, "I didn't even know he was gone. I was already in Missouri when I found out the little guy wasn't in my truck. He must have jumped out when I opened the door and he saw all the grass. He wanted to go out and play. I just thank the Lord for giving me back my little buddy. I promise I won't let that happen again."

After the kitten was safe with Spidel in a cat carrier, Walker arrived at Love's Travel Stop with some gifts of cat food, flea preventative and toys. While Spidel held his cat, she applied the flea preventative to Pizzelle's neck and petted the dirty kitten who was outside during several storms that week.

"I didn't think he would come out of hiding for anyone but his owner," Walker said. "Kitty just needed to hear Daddy's voice."

### **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)

## 'Dine and Donate'



### **City Barbeque in Whitestown**

Friday, September 29

11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Need to show promo when ordering

### **Amore Pizzeria in Zionsville**

First Monday of each month

11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

### **El Meson in Zionsville**

Second Wednesday of each month

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*Be sure to mention  
you are supporting HSforBC.*



## Donors honor people and pets with gifts to HSforBC

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

Reggie Clark, Norwich Terrier puppy

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

John Dimos  
Matthew Kersey  
Cody Brewer

Centier BANK Presents  
**Whiskerfest**  
Holiday Craft Show & Pet Photo With Santa Event  
benefiting

**HUMANE SOCIETY FOR BOONE COUNTY** | **THE ARC OF GREATER BOONE COUNTY**

**Saturday, December 2, 2023**  
10:00 am-4:00 pm

Indianapolis Car Exchange  
5161 Indianapolis Rd, Whitestown IN 46075

50+ Vendors in One Spot  
Pet Photos With Santa 12:00-4:00 pm  
Lunch available on-site

See the work of The ARC Artisans!  
Unique Gift Opportunities  
Adoptable Cats & Dogs Will Be There Too!

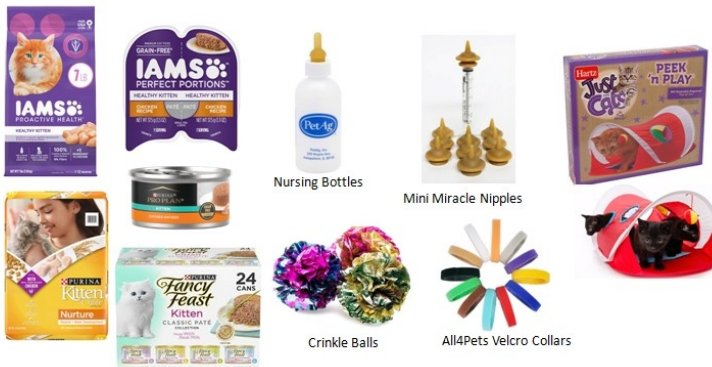
Questions? Contact us at  
hsforbc@gmail.com or 877-473-6722

HSFORBC.ORG

## HSforBC Wish List

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

### HSforBC Kitten Wish List



### HSforBC Puppy Wish List



## 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 to Angel Donor John Salvino and our friends at Animal Rescue Aid for the wonderful donation of Kurand beds. Our puppies will sleep more comfortably thanks to you all.

Rosy and Ivy Lamaster donated \$66 they raised with their lemonade stand in the Eagle's Nest neighborhood. Thank you!

Thank you to Tractor Supply Co. for the dog and cat donations.



HSforBC is honored to have been chosen by the employees of White Castle to be their charity of choice this year. The employees were treated to a tour to see how their donations help us with the cats and dogs. Each goal achieved by the White Castle employees working together helps increase corporate donations to our mission. Thank you to all the employees who are working daily to earn donations. Please buy a Slider and say thanks!





RUNSIGNUP.COM/RACE/IN/WHITESTOWN/5KRUNFORRESCUES
\$35

**RUN FOR RESCUE**

**5K-9 RUN/WALK**

TO BENEFIT THE HUMANE SOCIETY FOR BOONE COUNTY

10.28.23  
Saturday 10AM  
Registration ends October 26, 2023 at 11:59 pm EDT

START: LA CAFE  
4 South Main St, Whitestown, IN  
END: MOONTOWN  
345 S Bowers St, Whitestown, IN

Help support animal rescue—join us for this **chipped timed event** in downtown Whitestown. We start at LA Cafe and end at Moontown Brewing Company where you can enjoy a half-pint as part of your race participation.

Run or walk, your furry exercise partner is optional. All dogs must be leashed at all times. No retractables and nothing longer than 6 feet.

**PRIZE FOR BEST DOG COSTUME!**

Pre-race pickup shirts/numbers on October 27 at the shelter 12:00–3:00 pm or at Moontown 4:00–8:00 pm



**HUMANE SOCIETY FOR BOONE COUNTY**  
 For the Love of Animals  
 HSforBC.org  
506 S. Independence Street



Look what these Girl Scouts created for the felines in HSforBC care! Thank you, Zionsville Troop #8021. The cats love these boxes! We very much appreciate your kindness!



## Our Featured Adoptables

Visit [www.hsforbc.org](http://www.hsforbc.org) for information on these and other animals.

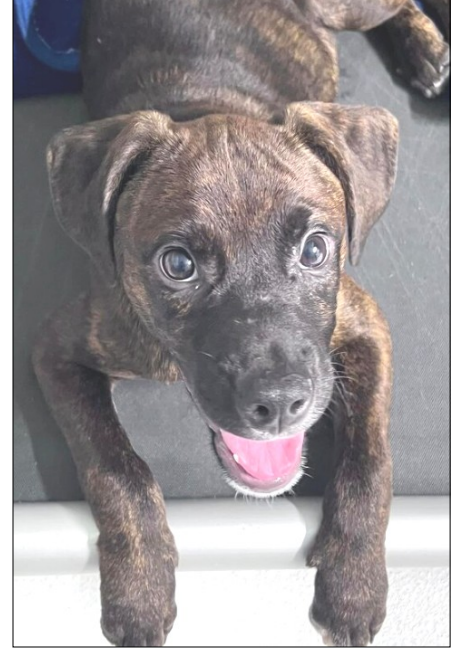
If you would like to foster an animal or schedule a Meet and Greet, call **1-877-473-6722** (877-HSforBC) or fill out the form on our website.



Tabby boy Jonah is about 3 months old and ready for his big adoption day! Will it be with you?



This handsome black Panther boy is about 3 months old. Gruyère is hoping for a wonderful forever home!



Bruce is a Hound mix and about 13 weeks old. He lives with other dogs, but is scared when first introduced so a slow introduction is best. He loves attention and play time.



Finny is playful and affectionate. He needs an active home with a fenced yard. He is being fostered with children ages 4 to 9 years and other dogs. He is housebroken, loves people and has had training at Dog World.

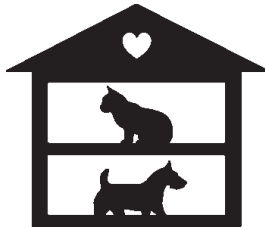


Ginger and white kitten Corduroy is a sweet, quiet and somewhat submissive boy. He is about 2 months old and enjoys looking out the window.

Just as we think the "Dog Days of Summer" are winding down, Mother Nature promises another 90-plus degree week! This is a great time of year to adopt a dog, puppy, cat or kitten! You have time for them to settle into the household and develop a great bond before the busy holiday season, and you aren't trying to house train a dog in the winter cold!

As of September 1, we have 60 cats and kittens and 70 dogs and puppies in our care. That's 130 total animals in the care of our dedicated volunteers in the shelter and in our foster homes. Be sure to check out our available pets on our website or on our Friends of Humane Society for Boone County Facebook page. Come out and visit us at the Zionsville Lions Fall Festival or any of the September events listed in this newsletter to see our adoptable dogs. (Kitties don't like outside events.) It's a busy fall season and we can't wait to share it with you and our furry friends.

Adopt, Volunteer, Foster, Donate!



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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 / 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.)