

HUMANE SOCIETY OF WHITLEY COUNTY

951 South Line Street, Columbia City, Indiana

Hours: Tues, Wed & Fri 12-5pm, Thurs 12-7pm, Sat 11-4 pm



“What’s Happening” at the Shelter

May-June, 2014

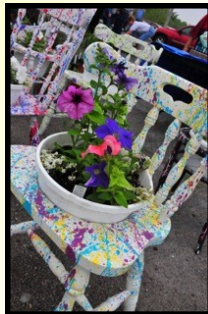
UPCOMING EVENTS:

Each event below is an opportunity to show your support for the animals. Every time you participate in one of the shelter’s events, you help homeless animals live better lives. Thank you!

4th Annual Plant/Craft/Bake Sale
Saturday, May 10, 9:00am to 5:00pm
At Tractor Supply Company
North Main Street, Columbia City

Bring your green thumb and your sweet tooth to the 4th Annual HSWC Plant/Craft/Bake Sale, held in the parking lot of TSC in Columbia City. This fundraiser expands every year, offering gorgeous plants, crafts and delicious baked goods for sale. This year, Nelson’s Chicken is also joining the fun, so help us celebrate spring with new plants, crafts and great food!

This event is loads of fun and all proceeds go directly to the care of homeless animals at the shelter.



UPCOMING EVENTS:

Volunteer Orientation

May 3, 9:00 am or June 7, 9:00 am
At the Shelter, 951 South Line Street

The first step toward making a difference in the lives of homeless animals is attending a Volunteer Orientation meeting, held the first Saturday of each month at 9:00 am. Come and see what it’s all about and how you can use your talents to make the lives of homeless animals better!

Pizza Night!

Monday, May 19, 5:00-8:00 pm
Pizza Hut, Columbia City

Celebrate spring by getting out of the kitchen and showing your support for the shelter! Enjoy a dinner buffet at the Columbia City Pizza Hut on Monday, May 19 from 5:00-8:00 pm. Part of the cost of each dinner buffet goes toward caring for homeless animals.



Churubusco Turtle Days Parade
Saturday, June 14, 6:00 pm

&

Old Settlers Day Parade
Saturday, June 21

Want to participate in either of these local parades? Help us create a fun, eye-catching parade float that promotes the shelter and its mission. Then, join the fun by walking the parade route with other shelter volunteers and staff. Contact “director@hswc.org” if you want to help!

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“What’s Happening” at the Shelter

May-June 2014

MAISEY’S STORY

Hello! My name is **MAISEY**. I’m a 4-year old Chow mix with a beautiful brown coat. I am a loving girl looking for a family that will play fetch with me and keep me company. I was brought to the shelter in late March because my owner was placed in the hospital and could no longer care for me. I was staying at a boarding facility, and they thought the shelter would give me the best care.



When I arrived at the shelter, I tested positive for heartworm. The kind people at the shelter were able to treat me for heartworm and give me a calm environment until I felt better.



I have now finished my one month treatment and am feeling well again. I should be heartworm free in about five months. Now the final step is to find a loving home. I love a good game of fetch and know how to be a loyal

companion. Could you find it in your heart to accept me into your family and give me a forever home? Stop by the shelter and meet me, **MAISEY!**

BEAR & SAWYER

Both Bear and Sawyer were surrendered to the shelter in November 2013 when their owner could no longer care for them. Simba, an orange tabby boy, was also part of their litter. All three boys were healthy, friendly and ready for adoption soon after they arrived. Simba was adopted in January (check out Happy Tails on page 4). Bear and Sawyer are still waiting for their forever homes.

BEAR is gorgeous, almost all black with a white “loket” on his chest. His pale green eyes reflect how intelligent he is and he doesn’t miss a thing! Bear is now about 1 year old but still as playful as a kitten when he sees a toy that interests him.



SAWYER is a doll! He has a beautiful mackerel tabby coat and pale green eyes. He is one of the most good-natured cats at the shelter. He loves a warm lap and a good chase with balls and stuffed mice. All Sawyer lacks is a good home!



Come in and meet these sweet boys soon. Maybe one of them (or both) can become part of your family!

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CHOOSING THE RIGHT CAT FOR YOUR FAMILY

Animal shelters are great places to find a wide variety of adult cats. Although it is very tempting, avoid choosing a cat based on looks alone. If you have kids in your household, keep in mind that young children tend to be very active and may be too rough with fragile kittens, which can result in injuries to the kitten and/or a fearful, skittish adult cat. Similarly, young kittens have particularly sharp teeth and claws, which can accidentally injure delicate young children.

First, visit a shelter and meet several cats so you can get to know a variety of feline personalities. Once you have selected a few cats that you like, the next step is to have your child meet the cats (you may want to do this in more than one visit).

Begin by setting up both the cat and the child for success. Demonstrate to your child how to appropriately meet a cat:

- Hold out one finger and allow the cat to sniff it. If she tries to rub your finger, that is a great sign! If she backs away or hisses, she is not comfortable. Never force a cat into a situation she isn't comfortable with. This could spell disaster for the cat and the human.
- Scratch interested kitties all over the head, neck and chin, and then along her back. If she remains relaxed and interested, gently place one hand under her belly and slowly pick up her front feet off the floor.
- If she remains relaxed, gently continue to pick her up as your other hand supports her back legs. Hold her securely against your body as you support her feet, and continue scratching her head.
- Have your child sit quietly on the floor or in a chair as you gently place the cat in his or her lap. Encourage your child to gently scratch the cat's head and back.

If the cat becomes uncomfortable or demonstrates “unhappy” body language at any time, gently but quickly set her down or allow her to get down on her own.

Most cats do not like to be held for long periods of time, so do not expect her to tolerate it.

Many cats do not like to have their bellies rubbed, so encourage children to avoid this.

Do not allow children to grab at, squeeze or carry cats like footballs. Cats can become injured or scared, which is dangerous for everyone involved.

Unlike a dog, when a cat is wagging her tail, this may indicate that she is irritated.

If a cat flattens her ears, she is unhappy and may strike out.

(from American Humane Society)

THEY ARE WAITING FOR A FOREVER HOME...



NALA, spayed female, 1 year old. She is sweet and loving and waiting for a new best friend!

BAILEY, spayed female, 2 years old. Beautiful eyes and a gentle personality. Great conversationalist too!



"What's Happening" at the Shelter

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HAPPY TAILS...



One year ago we rescued **Gus** from the Whitley County Humane Society. He makes our family complete, and we would rescue many more if we could afford it! Gus had some issues from his previous owner, but we were up for the challenge. Now, Gus is so happy, has Autumn to play with, and we simply can't imagine our lives without this big puppy.

He brings much joy to our family and we now feel complete.

We are loving having our Sammy (formerly **Simba**)! He has settled right in with the family. We get lots of kisses and long conversations from him. He's our good boy! Thank you for our new fur baby.



We love our Snowflake! (aka **Jessie**). She is lovable and feisty. She has made a great addition to our home!

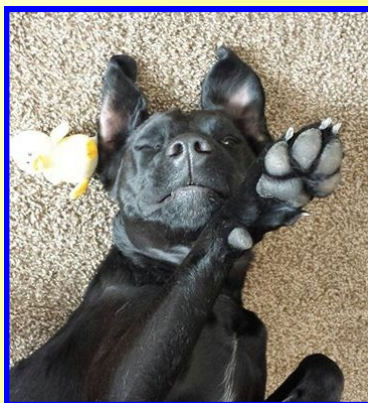
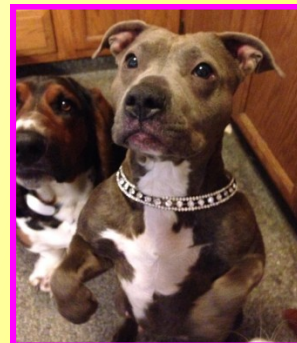
HAPPY TAILS...

Hoss sleeps at the foot of my daughter's bed every night. He's a funny, awesome little guy. Wary as I was of adopting a third dog, he's been just wonderful. Plus he's unbelievably cute!



Kaven has found a forever home! Now Zeke, he is enjoying his new home. He has lots of toys to play with, but his favorite is a blue milk jug ring!

Raelynn was a long-time resident who was adopted last month. She gets along perfectly with her two basset hound brothers. This is a photo of her wearing "bling"!



We got **Baxter** from you guys and he is the BEST dog I've ever owned. We love him so much and he shows the love right back. Thanks so much for our 4 legged furry blessing!!

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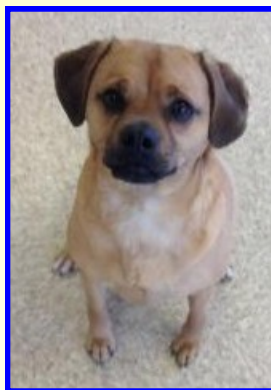
DID YOU KNOW?

- * A large breed dog’s resting heart beats between 60 and 100 times per minute, and it’s the same for a resting human heart.
- * A cat’s brain is biologically more similar to a human brain than it is to a dog’s. Both humans and cats have identical regions in their brains that are responsible for emotions.
- * When a cat chases its prey, it keeps its head level. Dogs bob their heads up and down.
- * Unlike dogs, cats do not have a sweet tooth. Scientists believe this is due to a mutation in a key taste receptor.

THEY ARE WAITING FOR A FOREVER HOME...



LUNAR, male
neutered Boxer



NELSON,
male
neutered
Puggle

IT’S A DOG’S LIFE

(And you can make it a better one!)

Our staff works hard to provide physical and mental stimulation for the homeless dogs in our care. Staff and volunteers take the dogs outside at least once a day. They are housed in outside kennels, bigger than their indoor space, but not big enough to run or chase a ball. We’re looking for more efficient ways to provide outdoor space for the dogs to run and play. This is our vision, and you can help make it a reality!

We would like to construct a fence in the outdoor yard

space to the north of our parking lot and use it for a dog exercise area.

Obviously, the dogs would benefit from outdoor space where they could run and

play. The staff could use their time more efficiently by exercising several dogs outside at the same time.



We’ve started a funding campaign for this project that will cost about \$10,000. Look for the logo below posted at the shelter and at all our events. ***For \$3, you can purchase one square foot of fence and help make this dream come true. Come to the shelter and make a donation today.*** You will join others who have “linked” with us to help make every shelter dog’s life a little better!



**I “linked” with the Whitley County
Humane Shelter to improve the lives
of homeless dogs.**

Kids’ Club!

At the Shelter, 951 South Line Street

We’ve finished another fun and successful year of “Kids’ Club” sessions! Join us again in October, 2014 for new programs and crafts.

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WE PLAY THE CLASSICS!

If you’ve visited the shelter recently and walked through the dog kennels, you may have heard classical music playing in this area. It’s not by accident. Classical music has been proven to have a calming effect on animals in a shelter environment. Here’s more on the subject:

“Lori Kogan, who is in the College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences and a licensed psychologist, played different music at a shelter over the course of four months while recording dogs’ behaviors. Music selections were played for 45 minutes with behavioral observations recorded every 5 minutes. Each music selection was followed by a period of silence, resulting in thousands of behavioral recordings.



Kogan's study suggests that heavy metal induces more nervous shaking in dogs. Playing classical music appeared to calm dogs more than other music selections or no music at all, according to the study, which appears in a recent issue of the Journal of Veterinary Behavior.

Kogan suggests that since dogs in shelters can be impacted by the music played within a facility, this gives shelters a way to create a more positive environment for dogs for relatively minimal cost and effort.

She suggests that shelters refrain from playing heavy metal music because of the detrimental impact it may have on dogs' stress and anxiety levels. Instead, it is suggested that shelters play classical music as a cost-efficient, practical way to enhance the environment and the welfare of shelter dogs.

Kogan plans to do follow-up studies exploring the potential for music as a way to soothe animals in veterinary clinics and for surgical recovery.”

from www.phys.org

MEET GRACE

It was a cold afternoon when police contacted the shelter stating that there were several animals located in homes where they were serving warrants. The shelter staff was able to rescue all the animals except **GRACE**, a beautiful female tortie cat. She was terrified and hid under the bed to avoid all of the chaos happening in her home. It took three days to finally coax her out to eat some food. As soon as she was in our shelter, we discovered that Grace had a rare condition. All her fur was missing except on her face and the ridge of her back.



We asked a veterinarian to look at her condition. It was something the vet had rarely seen before. The likely cause of her missing fur was either stress or a toxic chemical-related reaction. Nothing could be done except give her love, attention and a quiet environment, and be patient to see if her fur would grow back.

It has been two months since Grace came under our care. She has received love and affection from our volunteers and staff, and she now has her fur back! Grace has the most amazing green

eyes and a soft, sweet personality! It is so heartwarming to see our community come together to help animals in need, like Grace. She is ready for her forever home and would love for you to come meet her.



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TOP PET TOXINS OF 2013

In 2013, the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center (APCC) in Urbana, Illinois, handled nearly 180,000 cases about pets exposed to possibly poisonous substances. Here are the top 10 toxins of 2013 ranked in order of call volume:

1. Prescription Human Medications

The APCC handled 24,673 cases regarding human prescription medications in 2013. The top three types of medications that animals were exposed to include: heart medications (blood pressure pills), antidepressants and pain medications. Many of these exposures were due to people dropping their medication when preparing to take it, and before they knew it, Fido had gobbled the pill off the floor.



2. Insecticides

Insecticides are used in the yard, home and on our animals. While 15.7% of all calls to the APCC are about insecticides, more than half of the calls involving cats pertain to felines exposed to insecticides. Always read the label before using any insecticide on your pet, in your home or in your yard.

3. Over-the-Counter Human Medications

Over-the-counter human products accounted for 14.7% of calls to APCC in 2013. This group contains acetaminophen, ibuprofen and naproxen as well as herbal and nutraceutical products (fish oil, joint supplements). Many of these products are tasty to pets, and some can be life threatening if ingested.

4. Household Products

There were nearly 17,000 calls to the APCC about household products in 2013. Household toxins can range from fire logs to cleaning products. Some items can be corrosive, while other can cause obstruction of the gastrointestinal tract requiring surgical intervention.

5. People Food

Human foods are especially appealing to pets, especially dogs. Dogs can get themselves into serious trouble by ingesting onions/garlic, grapes/raisins and xylitol, a sugar substitute which can be life-threatening for animals.

6. Veterinary Products and Medications

Veterinary products slid down two spots this year. Both OTC and prescription veterinary products are included in this group. Flavored tablets make it easy to give your pet pain or joint medication, but it also makes it more likely for them to ingest the entire bottle if given the chance.

7. Chocolate

Chocolate is still the number one people food that pets ingest (we received an average of 26 calls a day last year). Too much chocolate can cause vomiting, diarrhea, high heart rate and seizures.



8. Rodenticides

When putting out baits to kill mice and rats, never underestimate the resourcefulness of your pet. Approximately 5.5% of calls to the APCC in 2013 were related to baits. Depending on the type of rodenticide, ingestion can cause internal bleeding, kidney failure or seizures.

9. Plants

More than 9,000 cases in 2013 were pet parents calling about their animals eating plants. This is one category that cats lead dogs in the number of exposures. Lilies can cause kidney failure and death in cats.

10. Lawn and Garden Products

Fertilizers, which can be made of dried blood, poultry manure and bone meal, are very attractive to pets, so it is not surprising that we get many calls (over 5,000 in 2013) on lawn and garden items.

If you have any reason to suspect your pet has ingested something toxic, please contact your veterinarian or the Animal Poison Control Center's 24-hour hotline at (888) 426-4435.

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WANT TO HELP?

Join Us, Be a Volunteer!

There's so much you can do to make a difference...

*walking dogs, cuddling cats
washing dishes, folding laundry
answering phones, making copies
writing grants, organizing fundraisers
running errands, stuffing envelopes*

*Come to the shelter and find out how you can help! **Volunteer Orientation** is held on the first Saturday of every month at 9:00 am. You'll learn about shelter operations and how volunteers are so important for the care of the animals.*

Our Wish List

Below are items we use on a daily basis, and are always in need of:

*Paper towels
Bleach
Dish soap
AAA batteries
Canned dog food
Lysol spray disinfectant
Letter-size copy paper
Letter-size manila file folders*

Some of our “Wish List” items are a little bigger, and will require financial help to make them a reality:

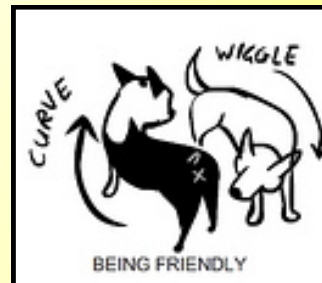
*3/4 Ton Cargo Van
Computers
Color Printer
Medical Equipment
Professional Floor Polishing
Display Equipment for Road Shows*

If you can help in any way, please contact us at 244-6664. We are always exploring new ways to raise funds and awareness for our cause, and we would love to hear your ideas!

BODY LANGUAGE!

The more you understand a dog's body language, the more you will develop a good relationship with your dog and enrich life for both of you.

A dog's feelings appear as various body language signals. We can learn these signals and know the state of a dog's feelings and stress level. Below are some body language tips:



If you understand a dog's communication style, you will become a best friend to dogs all over the world because a dog's body language is a universal language!

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT:

We are so grateful to everyone who has contributed time, supplies, or cash to help support the animals at the shelter. We could not continue to care for the animals without your support!

Annual Fund Drive Donors, Thank You!

Gary & Deb Archer
Dessie Arnold
Keith & Donna Darstein
Richard Dunbar
Stan & Lynn Frantz
Eugene & Jeannie Hively
Judi Huffman
Candy Hull

Thank You for Donated Items

Harold Alexander
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In Loving Memory

Elizabeth Dennis	Scott & Monica Bradley Glen & Janice Young
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Earl Strickland	Gene & Gladdie Barnett Stephen & Cheryl Woods



“What’s Happening” at the Shelter

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General Donations, Thank You!

Rosemary Alexander
Linda Alt
Deborah & Gary Archer
Toby & Julie Bair
Larry & Loretta Brouse
Rocky Bullock
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Sondra & Ryan Cook
Keith & Donna Darstein
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Doug & Vickey Smith
Stacie Stump
Cheryl Wagers
Barbara & Eldon White
Gwendolyn & David Yeager

Pet OverPopulation (POP) Fund Donations

Dessie Arnold
Richard Dunbar
Carmen Eger
George & Becky Kibe
JoEllen McConnell
Ann Stalcup, in honor of Marcia Meader

ALL THEY NEED IS A PLACE TO CALL HOME...



KEICO, female
spayed Chihuahua



CODY, male
neutered Lab



RIGSBY, male
neutered Gray
Tabby



SABER, male
neutered orange
mackerel tabby

☐ **YES, I want to help and become a Friend of the Shelter!**

Friends will receive a bi-monthly newsletter from the shelter, email updates on the shelter's upcoming events and more!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Yearly Friend Donation:

☐ **Individual - \$30**

☐ **Family - \$50**

☐ **Corporate - \$100**

☐ **I also would like to become a sustaining Friend and donate an additional \$ _____ per month.**

If donating with a check, please write FRIEND on your check and mail it in monthly. If paying with credit/debit card, monthly sustaining donations will be drawn the first week of each month and a receipt will be emailed to you, or mailed if no email is on

☐ Check enclosed # _____

Make check payable to the: **Humane Society of Whitley County • P. O. Box 245, Columbia City, IN 46725**

☐ **Credit Card**

I authorize a credit card payment of \$ _____ on my ☐ Visa ☐ MC ☐ Amex

Account # _____ Exp. Date _____ / _____ 3 digit security code on back of card _____

Signature _____

☐ **Contact me about volunteering for the Humane Society.**

**Join
Now!**

Friends of the Shelter

Help those who can't help themselves . . .



For more information please contact us at 260-244-6664 or www.hswc.org

THANK YOU! Your donation to the Humane Society of Whitley County is tax deductible (we are 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization) and supports our mission of improving **all** life in Whitley County.



**951 S. Line Street
Columbia City, IN 46725
(260) 244-6664**

- HOURS -

Sunday & Monday Closed
Tuesday & Wednesday 12 - 5
Thursday 12 - 7 Friday 12 - 5
Saturday 11 - 4

What Your Contribution Means

Most of us, at some point in our lives, want to be able to say *I made a difference*. Being able to play a part in promoting community education or knowing that we, in a small way, helped brighten somebody's otherwise lonely day is something to be quite proud of. Knowing that we will give comfort to frightened animals or be responsible for the joy a family feels when they are reunited with their lost pet will let you know that you have done well. All of this, and so much more, is made possible in part by contributions from community members like you. Please donate now so you too will be able to say . . .

I made a difference!