

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, 2013

IT'S AUCTION TIME!

Are you joining us at the auction? There's still time to buy advance tickets to the **14th Annual "Be A Lifesaver" Auction on May 10,**



5:00 pm at the Eagles Nest Event Center.

This year's auction is going to be great! The

music of Ivory West will set the stage for a night of fun and fellowship. We have lots of great items up for bid, something for everyone.

Follow the Lifesaver logo through this newsletter to learn how this annual event comes together.

HAPPY TAILS...

Louie was featured in the March/April newsletter. He said goodbye to the shelter and moved into his permanent home last week!



If you're looking for a true companion, come and meet our gorgeous felines. All our black & white cats are now adoptable for \$25 (see page 6).



Snickers, Whippet mix, was featured in our previous newsletter also. We are thrilled to report that Snickers has

found a forever home in Akron, Indiana!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Getting Ready for the Auction!.....	Page 2
Plant & Craft Sale-May 4th.....	Page 2
Neuter For A Nickel-Success.....	Page 4
A Million Ways You Can Help.....	Page 5
Volunteer Orientation Info.....	Page 5
Fund A Need.....	Page 6
Black & White Cat Sale.....	Page 6
Do You Live with a Funny Feline?....	Page 7
Athena & Pepper.....	Page 7
Be a "Friend of the Shelter".....	Page 8

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GETTING READY...

Have you ever wondered who does all the planning and prep work before the auction happens? It's the volunteers!

Our shelter volunteers start in early January each year, stuffing envelopes and sending out a donation request letter to hundreds of individuals and businesses. Those contacted are not just local, but include national companies and celebrities!

That first donor letter sets the theme for the auction. This year, we focused on the plight of those animals who come to our door with a

host of physical and emotional problems. Here's what we see all too often...



The faces of stray animals are filled with fear and anxiety. They are often sick, injured, hungry and tired. Tired of searching for

something to eat, tired of running from cars and other animals that attack to protect their territory. Tired of humans who ignore them, or worse, abuse them. *As the only animal shelter in Whitley County, we are their last chance for a good life.*



These are the faces of those who need us the most. You can be a part of their solution this year by helping us help them. You can ***Be A Lifesaver.***

That's the theme of this year's auction. The volunteers get busy in late January and continue the work. To find out how it's done, read on!



PLANT SALE!
SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2013
9:00 am—5:00 pm
TSC, Columbia City

Are you tired of cold weather and ready for spring? So are we!

There's nothing better than giving last year's garden or patio a fresh look with some new plants!

Our volunteers have been preparing for spring by dividing and potting plants, making fresh starts ready for sale.



Join us at the Humane Society's annual ***Spring Plant Sale, Saturday May 4th, at TSC.*** You'll find a wide variety of beautiful plants ready to add to your garden, lawn or patio.

We have bright pots to add color to your patio and creative planters you won't want to miss!

What else will you find at the Plant Sale? Find out on page 3...



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PLANT SALE!
SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2013
9:00 am—5:00 pm
TSC, Columbia City

You'll also find great craft items for sale and some of the best baked goods anywhere in Columbia City.



This popular fundraiser will continue all day, from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. All proceeds go toward the care and housing of homeless animals at the shelter.

Stop by TSC on May 4th and celebrate spring with us!



2013 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Loretta Benner
Mark Espich, President
Sandi Gray
Kayli Roop
Laurel Steill
Dan Stauffer
Danette Till
Larry Trumbull
Laura Underwood



GETTING READY...

After the initial donor letter is mailed, our volunteers follow up with personal phone calls. They confirm with each individual and business that an item will be contributed to the auction. It's hard work, never easy to ask for donations. Sometimes the answer is no, and that's always disappointing. But our volunteers never complain. They spend the time making these contacts because they know how important it is to gather as many items as possible so the auction will be a success.

This work usually extends over several months. When businesses agree to donate, often it takes a trip to the store/business to collect each item. That's more time the volunteers contribute to our cause.

Our Event Coordinator keeps track of all these items, no small task when the list begins to grow into hundreds of items!



In the midst of all these phone calls, there are planning meetings, caterer meetings, shopping trips to gather decorations, gift bags and centerpieces. Life gets a little crazy during March and April, but the

volunteers remember the reason for it all. It's those faces, the ones we see coming into our shelter every week, the faces that need so much.

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GETTING READY...



This year we mailed “Save The Date” auction postcards to our loyal supporters in March. If you would like to be included on this list next year, please call the shelter, 244-6664, and we’ll add

you to the list.

And the work continues. As the date gets closer, we design a placement for each table setting.

Several volunteers meet with the shelter Director and Event Coordinator to sort all the auction items. They decide if items will be combined into baskets, which items will be placed on silent auction tables, or auctioned live.

Another volunteer creates the Auction booklet, writing a description of each item up for bid.

This year, one of our volunteers has created a special tribute to the dogs and cats who have spent time at the shelter before moving on to their “forever” homes. You won’t want to miss it.

As you can imagine, all the planning and advance work of the last four to five months comes together the day of the auction.

Volunteers start early, arriving at the Eagle’s Nest Event Center usually before the doors are unlocked!



The final work begins with decorating the room and tables. Auction items start to arrive from various locations.

NEUTER FOR A NICKEL DAY

A GREAT SUCCESS!

On Saturday, April 13, the shelter was closed to the public, but it was one of the busiest days the shelter has ever seen. How is that possible?

If you participated in our first **“Neuter For A Nickel”** Day, you know that we were buzzing with activity. A total of **141 male cats** were brought to the shelter in the morning hours, neutered, then picked up before closing at 4:00 pm. The shelter staff, along with a small army of 47 volunteers from Whitley County and Fort Wayne, helped to make this event a huge success. *“Saturday was a great day for the Humane Society of Whitley County! Everyone who volunteered wants to help end pet overpopulation. It was wonderful to work as a team toward this goal.”* said Laura Rowe, Animal Care Supervisor from Ft Wayne Animal Care Control.

The success of this day was due to assistance from Fort Wayne Animal Care and Control, who have held similar events in Fort Wayne over the last six years. A special thank you goes to two veterinarians who volunteered their time with us, Dr. Elizabeth (Lentz) Schaeffer and Dr. Stephanie Coats. We could not have done it without you!

A special thank you also goes to the Columbia City Street Department, Whitley County Highway Department and Breyden Products.

This event will make a real difference in the number of unwanted kitten litters born in Whitley County and the surrounding area. Controlling pet overpopulation is an important part of our shelter’s mission.



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There's a Million Ways You Can Help!

Be a Volunteer!

*It's a great feeling to help enrich the lives
of homeless dogs and cats.*

***Come to the next Volunteer Orientation
meeting, Saturday, May 4, 9:00 am at
the shelter, meet Volunteer Coordinator
Angi Adams, and find out how you can
help!***

***Are you a dog-lover? We need volunteers
to walk dogs Monday –Friday from 8:00 –
11:00 am.***

*Maybe you prefer the company of cats?
We're always looking for people to spend
time cleaning and socializing our feline
residents!*

***If you can answer phones, file and use a
computer, we are in need of a receptionist.***

***If you can wash dishes, fold laundry or
mop a floor, come in and see us. These
tasks are an important part of animal care.***

Professional Dog Grooming

***Joy's Dog Grooming now offers grooming
services at the Whitley County Shelter. All
proceeds go to the shelter. Call 244-6664
for an appointment for your dog on any
Wednesday from 10am to 6pm.***

GETTING READY...

The Event Coordinator and volunteers design the room layout and placement of each item. Furniture is polished, glass is cleaned, all items are numbered and labeled.

Everything is displayed to its best advantage. Auction booklets are laid out and ready for our guests.



And then...our supporters start to arrive! Some are old friends we look forward to seeing each year. Some are new faces that we're excited to meet for the first time. All guests are welcomed into the best event we're able to create.

As the auction begins, we're excited each time an item sells at a high bid, as we remember the reason for all our work, those faces that need our help. All proceeds, every penny, goes toward the shelter's daily operations. It's the annual auction that helps keep our doors open so that whenever a homeless animal appears, someone is there to bring them in, give them food, water and a clean bed.

At the end of the evening, when all the bids are totaled, we leave for our own homes, exhausted but happy, knowing the evening has been a success and our mission will continue.

Oh, and then we start planning for next year's auction!

***If you love animals as we do, and care
about continuing the mission of the Whitley
County Humane Shelter, please join us on
Friday, May 10 at 5:00 pm at the Eagle's
Nest Event Center.***

***Purchase advance tickets at the shelter
or Espich Printing,
\$20+free drink ticket***

***It's a fun event, for a great cause.
You'll be glad you came!***

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May-June 2013



FUND A NEED

New to the auction this year is **“Fund A Need”**. It’s a new opportunity to make a big contribution to the care of homeless animals who spend time at our shelter.

For cats, it’s **“Bury Your Bucks”** in the sand of a stainless steel litter box that will be on display at the auction. Our goal is to purchase stainless steel pans to use as litter boxes. Why stainless steel? It does not absorb bacteria as plastic litter trays do. Less bacteria means less contagious germs among the feline population and that means healthier cats. You can help achieve this goal by burying your contribution to this fund!



For dogs, it’s **“Get Cozy For Cash”**! Leave your donation inside the large PVC pipe also on display at the auction. We hope to raise funds to purchase PVC pipe and material to build raised dog beds so all our dog residents can sleep comfortably off the concrete floor of the shelter.



Reaching both these goals will make life for the animals in our care healthier and more comfortable.

BLACK & WHITE WHISKERS ASSOCIATION!

For Those Who Appreciate Classic Colors

Greetings! I am contacting you today from the BWWA at the HSWC. Currently we make up 75% of the feline population here at HSWC.



Athena



Sylvester

Our all black members suffer from black cat syndrome, meaning we are continuously overlooked by potential adopters because of the color of our fur. What our members lack in color or variety, we make up for in personality!

Come in and see for yourself. We have negotiated our adoption fee to \$25 in an attempt to find homes for our members.

We Thank you,
Cody, President



**Cody,
BWBA President**



Ron

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DO YOU LIVE WITH A FUNNY FELINE?

If so, you can enter your cat in Petfinder’s Funniest Cat Contest!

In celebration of their “I am a Cat Parent” campaign, (<http://www.petfinder.com/iamacatparent>), Petfinder is asking cat parents to upload a photo or video of their pet and describe why he/she is the funniest. Funny cats can enter the contest now until May 21, 2013.

Entrants will select a Petfinder member to receive a donation if they win while submitting their story. The Whitley County Humane Shelter is a Petfinder member organization and would appreciate being your member choice!

The voting period will start on May 22 and visitors can vote once a day for animals throughout the contest, with the voting period ending June 22, 2013.

The funny cat with the most votes will win a \$250 gift card and a \$4,500 donation in their name to the designated organization. Visit The Funniest Cat Contest at <http://www.petfinder.com/cats/funniestcatcontest-iamacatparent> to enter and see the contenders!



ATHENA & PEPPER:

She’s a gorgeous girl, about 7 months old. **Athena** has it all, beauty, personality and heart!



She loves to curl up on a warm lap and spend time just being with kind people who return her affection. If it’s unconditional love you’re looking for, come in and spend time with Athena. She will win you over!

Pepper is just a year old and already has the odds stacked against her. This timid girl has



heartworms but has been treated and is recovering in a foster home. She was brought to the shelter when her owner passed away and will probably feel most comfortable in a home with older children. She has a gentle soul and needs a

companion who will reassure her. Call the shelter at 244-6664 and make an appointment to meet Pepper.

☐ **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!