

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

July-August, 2013

Did You Know?

Volunteers contribute over 160 hours each month to the Whitley County Humane Society Animal Shelter. This newsletter shines a light on our volunteers and all they do to care for homeless and abandoned animals and help them find permanent homes.

As you read about their experiences in the pages that follow, you’ll learn how each person helps make the animals’ stay at the shelter a little more pleasant.

If any part of their stories inspire you to want to help, please contact us today by calling the shelter at **260-244-6664. We welcome new people who feel as we do, that the animals deserve the very best care we can give them.**

There is much more we want to do to make the Whitley County Humane Shelter an outstanding community asset. We believe everyone has a talent and can make a contribution. Join us and find out what your contribution can be!



Did you know that when a dog sees its owner its brain secretes the same substances as ours when we are in love?

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Still Waiting...

Athena was featured in the April-May newsletter. Unfortunately, she is still waiting at the shelter for her permanent home.



All the cat volunteers know what a sweet and easy-going girl Athena is. When we visit her in Cat Country Club, she quickly curls up on a warm lap and starts purring her affection. She’s content to stay as long as she can. We give her lots of hugs and kisses and she loves it! If you’re searching for a true companion, please come in and meet Athena. She’s a perfect cat, beautiful, friendly and loving!

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VOLUNTEERS—What We Do

Have you ever thought about volunteering at the shelter? Maybe you’ve visited our facility and wondered what it would be like to “work” there? Or maybe you adopted a dog or cat, enjoyed your experience and wanted to give something back? Come in and talk to us!

Our volunteers are essential to the mission of the Whitley County Humane Society. They perform important duties that keep the animals clean, healthy and happy.



Have you attended one of the local fundraising events that the shelter sponsors? If so, you’ve benefitted from the efforts of our volunteers.

Volunteers wash dishes and fold laundry. They walk dogs and spend time socializing the cats and kittens. Volunteers greet visitors and introduce animals to potential adopters.

Volunteers help with office work by making copies, filing, and updating computer records. They keep track of supplies and update our Wish List.

This newsletter, emailed bi-monthly to our loyal supporters, is a volunteer effort. Volunteers write the articles, contribute the photos, arrange the layout and email it to over 400 people.

Adoptable animals are posted on Petfinder.com, and volunteers handle this task. Cat and dog descriptions are written by volunteers and posted weekly, with photos, to www.Petfinder.com and our own website, www.HSWC.org.

Have you seen the featured pets in the weekly Post & Mail? Again, it’s volunteers that make this happen. Volunteers update the local newspapers each week with adoptable animals.

Check out the adoptable cat posters at Lake City Bank, Star Bank, Reeg Motor Sales and the local veterinarian offices. These are updated and posted around Columbia City by volunteers.

Grant writing is another area where volunteers are making a contribution. The shelter has received operating capital, spay/neuter certificates, a washer & dryer, and medical equipment through grants, all contributing to keeping the shelter open and the animals healthy.

The Board of Directors acknowledged on Page 3 of this newsletter are all volunteers. They serve as the governing body of the Whitley County Humane Society.



VOLUNTEERS—Why We Do It

Rewarding, Fun, Love of dogs/cats
Giving back, Sense of accomplishment
Challenging, Doing something worthwhile
Gratifying to be part of adoptions
Making a positive contribution
Learning about animal behavior
Contributing to quality of animal’s life
Relaxing, Stress relieving

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VOLUNTEERS—Our Stories

Sandi, shelter volunteer: “There’s nothing more fun than spending time in a room full of cats or kittens, all wanting to play with toys and compete for my attention. Some like to chew my shoestrings and others want to climb up on my lap for petting and kisses. Cats are always curious, especially kittens. I visit them prepared with lots of stuffed mice and toys on strings that keep them happy the entire time I’m there. And when I have to leave, they usually find a soft place to curl up and take a well-deserved nap. I know they’re content and so am I. I always leave feeling that it’s been time well spent, that I’ve done something worthwhile by giving them love and affection.”



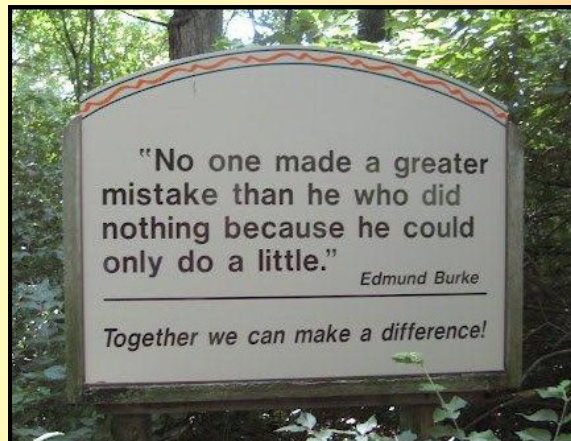
Bailey, 3-month old neutered male, available for adoption

Reese, 2-year old spayed, declawed female, available for adoption



2013 Board of Directors

Loretta Benner, Treasurer
Mark Espich, President
Sandi Gray
Kayli Roop
Dan Stauffer
Laurel Steill
Katie Sweeney
Larry Trumbull
Laura Underwood



Kris, shelter volunteer: “My most favorite shelter animal was Scooby, a German Short Hair dog. I met him in 2004, the first year the shelter opened. Scooby was an owner-surrender and he was the sweetest dog. However, he became so stressed that when he ate, he immediately tossed his cookies! Needless to say, it didn't take long for him to start losing weight. I talked to the director and told him that Scooby needed to get out of the shelter. At the time, we lived on a lake, so I fostered Scooby at my home. I took a photo of him standing by the lake and posted it on Petfinder. A gentleman from LaPorte, Indiana saw the picture and came down a few days later and adopted him!

I love fostering kittens and watching them grow and their personalities emerge. It's hard to give them up, but I know they will find great forever homes because of the love and attention I've given them.”

Lydia, 2-month old female, available for adoption



Marty, 2-month old neutered male, available for adoption

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VOLUNTEERS—Our Stories

Liz, shelter volunteer: “I’m an animal lover and became a volunteer at the shelter about a year and a half ago. After retiring I found myself needing to be of service in some way. I visited the animal shelter and decided that was where I was needed. Mostly I work with the cats and kittens, but I also help with housekeeping chores like laundry and washing dishes.

It’s such a wonderful feeling to see a stray or abused cat or kitten becoming able to trust a human. My goal is getting the cats and kittens to trust enough that they will be comfortable being held. That’s when they find their forever home.

I only interact with small dogs because I’m not strong enough to walk the larger dogs. I love all the animals and try to learn as much as I can about each one so I can talk to visitors who are looking for a new friend.

My friends and family can’t believe I can volunteer without wanting to take all the animals home. I tell them the animals have all they need at the shelter, except human contact. That’s where I can make a real difference.

Sometimes when I’m not in the best of moods and I enter the shelter and interact with the animals, my mood brightens. To me, it’s so comforting to sit in one of the cat rooms and hold an animal on my lap and hear them purr. I’m sure I get as much or more out of holding and petting them, as they do.

If you’ve never been to the shelter, come and visit us. If you would like to volunteer, I’m sure there is a place for you!”

Riley, 3-month old female, available for adoption



Corky, 1-year old Beagle, available for adoption

Carmen, shelter volunteer: “My daughter had to do volunteer work when she was in the 8th grade, so we came to the shelter. I met the other volunteers who asked if I would help with a road show, so I did. We went to Churubusco, showed some of the shelter’s animals and I had a great time! I feel like we hit it off and that is why I come back.

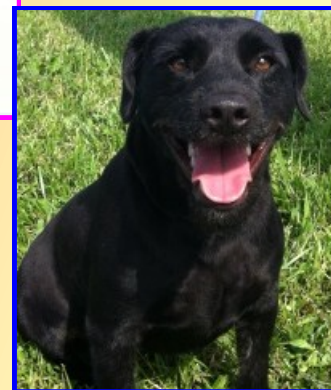
I really like the shelter, I like all the improvements that Lindsey has made and I am meeting new people. I am new to the area and don’t know many. I enjoy seeing the animals, they can always put a smile on anyone’s face.

Plus I enjoy hearing the stories of the animals finding their forever homes.”



Alice, 6-year old Bouvier des Flanders, available for adoption

Prince, 1-year old neutered male, available for adoption



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Dave, shelter volunteer: “I remember the morning I first met Madge. I walked through the gate of the Humane Shelter yard and there she was with her golden fur and big sad brown eyes. She looked to be about 6 months old but had clearly just had puppies. It turned out that Madge was closer to 2 years old but looked younger because of her Golden Retriever mix. My wife Gwen and I are partial to Golden Retrievers and have had one for the 30 years we’ve been together. Madge’s looks and pleading eyes got her some special attention whenever I came in to walk dogs. I felt particularly sympathetic for her when her owner did not come to claim her. An additional blow came when Madge tested positive for heartworm. My understanding is that heartworm treatment is expensive and requires the dog to be in a quiet environment for 4 weeks. After talking to Lindsay, the shelter Director about Madge, she asked if I would be willing to foster Madge for 30 days. After my wife met Madge, we readily agreed.

Madge seemed so happy to be with us and fit into our family of a 10-year old Golden Retriever and a 2-year old Bichon/Beagle mix. There were no accidents, no chewing, or any of the other puppy behaviors that we were expecting. She learned the property boundaries in a few days. As far as we knew Madge was “little miss perfect”. We later discovered that she is afraid of storms, howls when the phone rings, and wants to chase cats. It was so easy to make her a part of our family. We were not planning to add a third dog, but within 2 weeks of fostering, we asked to adopt her. Now she is officially part of our family.”



Join Us, Be A Volunteer!

We need your help.

There’s much more we can do to raise money and awareness about homeless animals in our community.

We need your ideas and energy to continue enriching the lives of homeless dogs and cats.

If you can answer phones, fold laundry, wash dishes, walk dogs, cuddle cats, paint, make copies, clean cages, build things, greet visitors, make coffee, use a computer or organize community events, you can help!

Come to the shelter on Saturday, July 6th or August 3rd at 9:00 a.m. and find out how you can start making a difference!

Cockfighting Bust: ASPCA on the Ground in Indiana

The ASPCA is assisting in the forensic evidence collection, removal, transport and sheltering of more than 60 fighting roosters from a property in Spencer, Indiana. Other animals including dogs and farm animals were also seized from the property. “We’re assisting at the request of the Indiana Gaming Commission, the Gaming Control Division and the Monroe County Humane Association.”

Spencer is a small town in Owen County, Indiana, population 2,217

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THOSE WE WISH TO THANK

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

Rick & Bonnie Amburgey
Myrna Bailey
Danny & Joanne Behm
Erin & Ian Bender
Sharlene Berkshire
Tim Bloom
David & Phyllis Boger
Ronald & Margaret Bowser
Scott & Melody Buckles
Garry Burelison
Bernard Caley
Rebecca Case
David & Abby Caswell
Lisa Claypool
Sharon Coulter
Thomas & Sheryl Dawson
Pat Dean
Emily Deutsch
Deutschs Boarding Kennel
Jim & JoAnn Espich
Espich Printing
Peggy Ewing
First Church of God
Mary Fries
Joy & Michael Gayle
Charleen Godfrey
Jerry & Sandra Grube
Troy Grube
Donna Harl
Stefan & Christine Hartman
Norma Hawk
Anthony Hively
Robert & Sarah Howard
Christine Howk
Sharon Kirkpatrick
Theresa & Kenneth Liggett
Robert & Loyda Loe
Nadine Manter
Lora Mata
Reyes Mata
William & Marcia Meader

Dianne Metzger
Steven & Melody Meyer
Rosanna & Will Miller
Orizon Real Estate
Samuel & Nancy Overton
Gregg Palmer
Mary Palmer
Michelle Patton
Ewing Potts
David Reinhard
Scott Rhea
Jeffrey Richcreek
George & Gail Roth
Dean & Barbara Sheets
Larry & Kathy Shively
Leslie Shively
James & Trisha Sittler
Brett & Amy Sheets
Shannon & Raygene Slater
Tiffany & Berton Smith
Joseph & Valerie Snyder
Craig & Ronda Sroufe
Dan & Marcia Stauffer
Patricia Stetzel
T.G. & Sandra Steward
Mary Louise Strouse
Michelle & David Sylvester
Cheryl Wagers
Teresa Wolfe
Linda Wysong
Mark & Sarah Zimmerman

New Friends of the Shelter

Don & Sharlene Berkshire

Professional Dog Grooming

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

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In Loving Memory of Susan Adams

Susan Frisch



In Loving Memory of Shirley Murphy

Jenny & Roger Grable
Donna Harl
Leroy & Catherine Hawn
William & Marcia Meader
Linda & Jim Melvin
Nicole Penrod



In Loving Memory of JoEllen McConnell

L.M. Allen
S.M. & J.S. Budde
Joan Byer
Jill & Darrin Daniel
Robert Fahl
Hair Happenings
Michael & Julia Hayes
Wayne & Robin Huffman
J&J Insurance Solutions
John & Laura Lefever
William & Marcia Meader
Betty Mink
Nicole Penrod
Roy Pontzius
Mary Reed
Donald Richey
Sharon & James Smith
Sarah Snedeger
Ann Stahn
Donald & Jeannette Sullivan
Victoria Watkins
Gary Wilson
Lisa Wilson

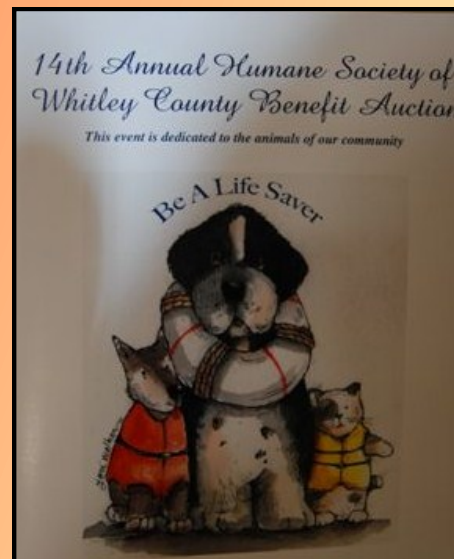


THOSE WE WISH TO THANK

Beta Associates of Tri Kappa are helping our resident dogs sleep easier with their donation to our “Get Cozy With Cash” dog bed fund. Thanks so much for your help!

2013 “Be A Life Saver” Auction

A big “thank you” to all the shelter volunteers who helped make this year’s annual auction a success! This event would not happen without the hard work of those who worked for months making phone calls, getting donations and setting the stage for a wonderful event.



Thank you also to all the individuals and businesses who contributed items to this year’s auction. Each contribution helps makes this event special.

The “Fund A Need, Bury Your Bucks” effort at this year’s auction was a big success. Thanks to all who donated, we were able to purchase 20 stainless steel litter pans for the cats.

“Get Cozy for Cash” also raised enough money to purchase materials to build 20 dog beds! These are still a work in progress, so ***if you would like to help assemble the beds, please call the shelter at 244-6664 and let us know you can help!***

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Plant Sale volunteers

You helped make the sale a huge success this year!

Angi Adams
Mary Carney
Mandy and Skylar Dillon
Joy Ditton
Laura & Tim Doty
Carmen Eger
Mark Espich
Sandy & Jerry Grube
Troy Grube
Jessica Hill
Bob & Linda Hoffman
Debbie Kirkpatrick
Allison Lude
Tricia Morton
Tam Nelson
Lindsay & Olivia Pease
Liz Sponaugle
Jamie Sheehan
Doris Studebaker
Randee Taylor
Tractor Supply Company
Laura & Ava Underwood
Kelli Vielhuber
Kris Wilz
Mrs. Sheckler's Coesse class

Patches is a winner!
Walmart held a “Who’s the Cutest Pet” contest, and Patches, a mini horse was declared the winner. Walmart generously shared 1/2 the proceeds with our shelter. Thanks Walmart & Patches!



SUMMER HEAT, KEEPING YOUR BEST FRIENDS COOL

Our animal friends depend on us to exercise good judgment and keep them safe in all seasons. Here’s some facts from Petfinder.com about summertime heat and how it can affect them:

- *Cars Aren’t Cool*—a car’s temperature will rise approximately 40 degrees in one hour, even on a relatively cool 72 degree day
- *Cars Heat Up Fast*—Most of a car’s temperature increase is within the first 30 minutes
- *Windows Don’t Help*—Cracking your windows doesn’t help stop the heat from increasing. Published in the journal Pediatrics, it was shown that cars with the windows cracked still reached the same temperature as those with the windows closed
- *Your Car Becomes an Oven on Hot Days*—On a hot day, cars can reach 120 degrees in just a few minutes
- *Shade Doesn’t Help*—Dogs can succumb to heatstroke even when the car is in the shade
- *The AC Is Not a Fix*—Leaving the air conditioning on and the car running does not guarantee your dog’s safety. Not only could the air conditioning break, but you run the risk of noxious fumes building up
- *Find Another Way*—Leave your dog at home on hot days or find alternate ways to run your errands

Watch out for signs of heatstroke in dogs and cats. Symptoms include panting, lethargy, drooling, fever, vomiting and collapse. If you think your pet may have heatstroke, get to the vet ASAP. The condition can cause permanent organ damage and death.



☐ **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!