



Newsletter of

the Brown County Humane Society

January 2009

www.bchumane.org

FREE

Paw Prints

A Promise Made

2009 marks 43 years since a small group of local residents founded the labor of love that is the Brown County Humane Society. Since 1966, when folks like Fran Fears, Art Bradshaw, and Rupert and Birdie Miller began taking strays into their own homes, BCHS has been providing care for animals in need.

Their early work laid the foundation for the work BCHS continues today. With no other safe haven available, these early members housed homeless pets at their own expense and held bake sales and other fundraising events with the hope of one day funding a permanent shelter.

That dedication and hard work first paid off in 1977, when BCHS was able to lease a pole barn that would become Brown County's first animal shelter. Though the shelter operation was meager at best, BCHS had a temporary home.

In 1982 the lease expired, and without another suitable location BCHS was forced to return to placing animals in foster homes. By 1986 the humane society had succeeded in raising more than \$50,000 toward a structure--a tidy amount but not nearly enough to break ground.

That same year, through the generous donation of a humane society member, BCHS was granted six acres of land on which to finally build. The shelter officially began operating at its present location on January 5, 1987.

BCHS as it exists today has evolved from the efforts of those few, civic-minded individuals working so tirelessly to give Brown County animals a voice. Since that time BCHS has taken major steps forward in its ability to serve as a resource for abandoned, neglected and abused animals. Community support has had a profound impact on the BCHS mission, enabling it to improve the care it provides, increase the number of animal adoptions, expand volunteer opportunities, and launch new initiatives to benefit the community.

Despite the shelter's best efforts, during the 1980s and 90s the average euthanasia rate hovered around 67 percent. Although more and more animals were being saved, any successes were off set by the ever-increasing number of animals entering the shelter.

With a new millennium dawning the Board of Directors took a hard look at the organization: in a perfect world, what would the shelter look like?

Over the years, BCHS had consistently operated in a frugal and responsible manner. But there was a catch—operating expenses could be met only if the shelter operated at a threshold level. Without additional monies, progress was unlikely.

While the Board wrestled with these issues, several turning points occurred. The decision was made that BCHS would redouble their efforts to work toward no-kill status. New sources of revenue were sought, and the shelter was fortunate to hire an energetic, dedicated and

resourceful new manager. A generous bequest in 2005 made it possible to enhance programs geared toward saving as many lives as possible. BCHS launched a dog transport program, implemented foster care, introduced off-site adoptions, and all pets began being spayed & neutered prior to adoption. **The euthanasia rate dropped from 71 percent in 2001 to 16 percent in 2007.** Real progress was being made.

Today on any given day BCHS is responsible for hundreds of animals with diverse needs, and for most, BCHS is the only place they will find help. The shelter currently takes in about 1,400 pets per year—93 animals for every 1000 Brown County residents.

We as a community have come a long way. Today the Brown County Humane Society boasts a 90 percent Out Alive rate!

Keeping homeless pets alive and placing them in loving homes is a worthy goal to which the shelter is committed. And as we turn the page on a new year, the challenge is to create true sustainability for the important work BCHS provides.

To that end the humane society has established a Promise Fund, an endowment aimed at keeping its work alive in perpetuity. You will hear more about this exciting initiative in the coming months.

Your voice counts.

More information is available at www.bchumane.org.

On behalf of our animals, BCHS

Meet The Staff



Jan Duke moved to Indiana from South Dakota a few years ago with a shelter dog, 4 cats and 2 horses. Little did she know that she would leave us over two years later with more than she bargained for – 1 horse, 14 cats & 4 dogs. Shortly after arriving she joined our volunteer team, it didn't take long for us to realize she was special. Her attention to detail (cont.)

Upcoming Events

A fun way to show your support of the shelter is to participate in our fund raising events:

- January 25, 2009 – *Speakers' Series* at the Library
- February 8, 2009 – *Chocolate! Chocolate!* at the Seasons Lodge
- May 17, 2009 - *Dawg Gone Walk & Fiesta* at Deer Run Park
- Nov. 14, 2009 - *Chocolate Walk*

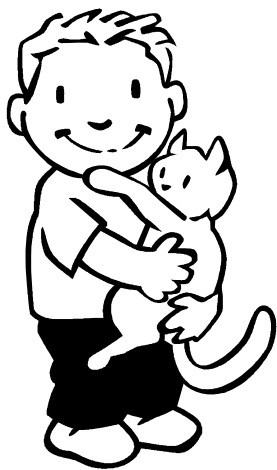
For more information visit our updated website at www.bchumane.org

The Brown County Humane Society, 128 S. State Rd. 135, Nashville, IN 47448

812-988-7362

www.bchumane.org

Open 12-5 M,W,F,Sa,Su



Lot of With a Little Help from Our Friends...

Jody Rainbolt ❧ Cathi Eagan ❧ Marge Cook ❧ Mary George ❧ Dr. Mary Alice Cox ❧ Dr. Jim Koch
❧ Dr. James Brester & Staff ❧ Dr. Robert Gillespie ❧ Ruth Riley ❧ Dr. Sue Whitman ❧ Jim Hahn
❧ Tony, Samantha & Tony II West ❧ Bob Bowers ❧ Marilyn McAtee ❧ Sharlene Wozniak ❧ Emily &
Carol Cameron ❧ Todd Baker ❧ Ann McCann ❧ Mary Jo Conley ❧ Red Nastoff ❧ Pat & Kendra
Loyal ❧ Suzannah Zody ❧ Juanita Boles ❧ Susie Woodall ❧ Wanda Jones ❧ Kathy Sharp ❧ Debbie & Mike
Pope ❧ Patricia & Vince Madden ❧ Jeanne Snow ❧ Stephanie Losey ❧ Gwen & Larry Blair ❧
Donald Moore ❧ Dyllon Sizemore ❧ Becky & Rick Burr ❧ Mary Ann Soll ❧ Patty Peaker ❧ James Sizemore
❧ Val & Bob Hudson ❧ Carli Hoffacker ❧ Claire Mitchell ❧ Heather Newton ❧ Nancy Peters
❧ Katie Ennis ❧ Anna O'Neil ❧ Debbie Matz ❧ Paul Robbins ❧ Carmen Penley ❧ Debbie Dunbar
❧ Jeanne Skillman ❧ Diane Pettiner ❧ Connie Weddle ❧ Jay Charon ❧ Scott Nelson ❧ Trina Unger ❧
Dawn & Judy Van Weeser ❧ Angelica Nevins ❧ Patty, Miranda, Sophie & Seth Lindley ❧ Stacie Segris
❧ Stephanie Sharp ❧ Arielle Suhre ❧ Michael Fulton ❧ Izzy Wilhelm, Hunter & Kayla Bamford ❧
Tabby Davis ❧ Casey Stinson ❧ Heather Brown ❧ Michael Muirhead ❧ Daren Harris ❧ Sarah Nungester ❧
Steve Patterson ❧ Leroy Pointer ❧ Jeanette Bube ❧ Karen Avery ❧ Janette & Kayla Bruner ❧ Stephanie Dean &
Lindsey ❧ Patty Powers ❧ Renner Gabbei ❧ Lee Kirk ❧ Mary Perez ❧ Anna & Julie Crawley ❧ Charlene Marsh

❧ Sarah Foley ❧ Sherry Bube ❧ Claudia Davis ❧ Kathy Brown ❧ Barb Woods ❧ Barb & Carl Lunde ❧ Sharon Kikendall & Family ❧
Jessie Thomas ❧ Anna Leggins ❧ Kim Fong ❧ Kasie Rushton ❧ Ashton Withers ❧ Matthew Caneron ❧ Bryan Milloy ❧ Taylor White ❧
Nick Hawkins ❧ Trevor Kikendall ❧ Gwen Warford ❧ Mercy Phillips ❧ Ryan Nichter ❧ Karen Westfall ❧ Brenda Beckham ❧ Amanda Smith ❧
Celine McCarter ❧ Heather Starr ❧ Sakrina Ward ❧ Chrissie Hodapp ❧ Artishmie Robbins ❧ Sasha Robinson ❧ Karen Arnold ❧
Chris Bailey ❧ Rebecca Sandow ❧ Lucas Roulin ❧ Jacob Harless ❧ Terri Stoebick ❧ Kindra Thomas ❧ Chrissy Ferree ❧ Zoey Hilton ❧
Debbie Hilton ❧ Zoey Chandler ❧ Sarah McCoy ❧ Molly McConnell ❧ Laura Jacobus ❧ Amy Pottenger ❧ Lynda Sandow ❧
Heather Emerson ❧ Jennifer Sizemore ❧ Heather Brown ❧ Lanie Hines ❧ Jeri Kleep ❧ Kayla Bennett ❧ Jim Kemp ❧ Taylor Politan ❧
Mikki & Frank Conly ❧ Beverly Phillips ❧ Jordan Kiffmeyer ❧ Katelyn Roberts ❧ Harry Turner ❧ Crystal Lane ❧ Lora Auther ❧
Mary Jo Conley ❧ Keisha Graham ❧ Madisyn Fry ❧ Gwen Welch ❧ Jesse & Amber Sizemore ❧ Lilly Chandler ❧ Debbie Carmer ❧
Teresa & Kenny Haywood ❧ Emily Dickeson ❧ Bloomington PetCo Staff ❧ Barbara Roberts ❧ Kristi Brown ❧ Micah Emler ❧
Jenny Morrison ❧ Hillary Burns ❧ Jason Wimmenauer ❧ Stori Snyder ❧ Mandy Kleiman ❧ Dana Cherkala ❧ Nicole & Kelly McPheeters

A special thanks to those who donated their efforts to the Volunteer Appreciation Reception in November:

- ❖ **MARCIA DEBOCK, JOHN & MISSY DAVIS, HOOSIER BUDDY LIQUORS, & OLIVER WINERY** graciously donated wine.
- ❖ **BROWN COUNTY ART GALLERY** and **PAM & TOM CRAWFORD** donated use of the gallery, and **PAM & TOM** assisted with the event, as well.
- ❖ **WEED PATCH GROUP** performed on various stringed musical instruments, providing a lovely atmosphere.

To make a memorial donation, please send a check along with your name and the name of the person or pet you want to honor to: **Brown County Humane Society**
18 Redbud Lane, Nashville, IN47448

~~ IN HONOR OF ~~

Bambi, Jimmy, Kenny, Heidi, Ben, Tony, Nick, & Daisy – Rochelle A. Banziger
Holly – Eliot & Pamela Smith, Charlene Marsh, Mark & Jan Larkin
Jody Rainbolt – Judy A. Williams
Marg Prohl – Fred & Mary Prohl
Skyler Vincent – Happy Birthday! – Destiny Vincent
Phil Wagner – Renee Tatman
"Duke" – **The Best Ever** – Mark Ferguson & Elizabeth Yntema
Charlotte & Rachel Seindensticker – Rochelle A. Banziger
Janet Enochs - Fred & Sereta Andrews
Otis - Chas. & Thea Brown
Welsh Corgi "Taffy" - **The Best** - Richard & Wanda Crutchett
Rex, & Sam, All My Loves Plus Five – Rochelle A. Banziger
Demios, Maureen Thomas' "Beautiful Boy" – Deanna L. Safe

(cont.) and endless love for all of our homeless critters brought her to BCHS--quite different from the job she had most of her life as a respiratory therapist. It was at BCHS that she adopted 4 more dogs, most large breed special needs seniors. One of these--Ginger, a senior golden retriever abandoned on the back roads of Brown County--was not only 14 but diagnosed with cancer. Being a cancer survivor herself, Jan & Ginger bonded instantly. Jan selflessly gave Ginger many months of warmth, food, comfort & love knowing that Ginger didn't have long to live. Jan's latest addition is Sheba, a 14-year old Aussie mix. Jan has also fostered countless cats, most of which she added to her family. Jan is a true kid at heart. She has traveled widely, and has visited and lived in many wonderful places. It is here though, in the small town of Nashville, Indiana, that we believe she will be missed the most. **Good luck back home in S. Dakota, Jan!**

~~ IN LOVING MEMORY OF ~~

"Duke & Murphy" (pets of Pat & Kendra) - Rich & Sally Greeno
"Jennifer Sue" - Robert & Nancy Nixon
"Jonah, Zion & Bear", My Sweet Dogs – Jenny Johnson
"Lady & Gage" - Arthur & Bette Ferguson
"Macy" - **Beloved Dog of the Alex Hess Family** - Janet & Michael Rash
Bob & Yvonne's "Sugar" – Lee Edgren (River Light Yoga)
Carl Walker – Doris Waldschmidt
Clint Voyles - Quandrant Financial
Dan Smitley - Paul & Carole Page
Emerson Wheeler – Wilma Wheeler
Frank Lawson – Wanda Lawson
Jane's "Basha" – Betty L. Weatherford
Jeanne Winkley – Wanda Jones
Loyal's Beloved "Murphy" – Joe & Sandra Ridenour
Memory of Raymond C. Shallo - Keith & Kathy Kirk
In Memory of "Basha" - Steven & Kathleen Sharp
"Blue Boy" - Robert & Shirley Malina
"Dexter Boy" - Ronna & Steve Snyder
"Carly" & Our Other Beloved Ones - Vicki Wayman, Bear Wallow Gifts
"Dexter" – Jane E. Weatherford
"Duke & Murphy" - David & Kathy Cuppy
"Duke & Murphy" Loyal - Michael & Jaydene Laros
"Murphy" - James & Judith Huber
"Pepe" - **Beloved Cat of Brian Pfeister** - David & Kathy Cuppy
Chad Simo - Pam & Jerry Simo
Grover Junior Percifield - Robert & Winifred Schrougham
Grover Percifield - Bob & Chris Kirlin
Loyal's "Murphey" - Sue Ahbe
Mocha Maxine & College Mall Vet Hospital - Roger & Beverly Dean
My Beautiful Cat "Jenny" – Mary M. Falker-Howard
Toby-Maggie Wilson's Yorkie - Hopeful Planters Garden Club
Cathi Eagan's "Holly" - Steven & Mary George



Board of Directors

Jane Weatherford – President
Marcia Moore – Vice President
Greg Bennett – Treasurer
Agnes Unger – Secretary
Vicki Bennett, Patti Fleetwood, Leigh Ann Hoffacker,
Linda Moeller, Judy Reichert, Rebecca Robertson, Cathy
Scott, Judy Stewart, Jeanne Turner, Betty Weatherford,
Adam Young

The BCHS is a community resource dedicated to promoting animal welfare. We provide temporary shelter to pets in need and promote adoption into permanent, loving homes. We support and promote spaying and neutering to eliminate pet overpopulation. We advocate compassionate care and respect for animals through public education.