

The Pet Dispatch

The newsletter of the Bond County Humane Society

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HAPPY TAILS

"Happy Tails" highlights a few of the pets that have been adopted and their special stories.



BCHS accepted and adopted its first goats, Bill and Ted. The owner of the Pygmy goats contacted BCHS and explained she had received the goats as a Mother's Day gift in 2004. She loved the goats but because of her physical condition was not able to continue to care for them. She wanted to make sure they went to a good home that wanted them for enjoyment. BCHS accepted the goats and were fostered by Joe & Dee Pruitt. Pictures of the goats were placed on Petfinder.com where they were spotted by a couple in Indianapolis. On Tuesday, March 13, the goats were adopted and picked up by their new owners, Ann and Kevin, from Indianapolis, IN. Ann and Kevin have 15 acres, own and operate a 52 run dog boarding kennel and Kevin is a canine officer with the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department. Ann & Kevin had already rescued one Pygmy goat and were looking for another one. They initially contacted BCHS just about Ted, but when they found out Bill and Ted had always been together they decided to adopt both of them.

In 2006 a total of 161 animals were adopted.

- 92 dogs/puppies
- 69 cats/kittens

All pets are spayed/neutered and micro chipped prior to adoption.

Adoptions are conducted at Petco in Fairview Heights on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays and at PetSmart in Glen Carbon on the 2nd, 4th and 5th Saturdays of the month.

BCHS ANNOUNCEMENTS

There have some changes and additions to the list of BCHS Officers. Following is a current list of Officers.

Rachel Hundsdorfer, President
Dee Pruitt, Secretary
Dale Johnson, Treasurer
Dennis Hundsdorfer, Vice President
Doris Rench, Vice President
Greta Rice, Vice President

HEADLINE NEWS

County Maintenance Building Update

BCHS will be occupying the old Bond County Highway Maintenance Department building on S. Fourth Street. The Bond County Board and BCHS have arrived at an agreement on terms of a lease. BCHS has agreed to pay Bond County \$1/year for lease of the building. BCHS will be responsible for utilities and will carry Liability Insurance and name Bond County as co-insured. The plan is for BCHS to temporarily occupy the building until money can be obtained to construct a shelter on the 3 acres of land donated by Sam Blankenship on West Ayers Road. The goal is to construct a new shelter within 2 years.

Work is underway to have the Adoption Center, Office and Cat Shelter ready for the Grand Opening on April 29. Thanks to all the volunteers who have donated their time and worked so hard to make this happen. Volunteers include: Joe & Dee Pruitt, John & Nancy Gillard, Linda Packard, Doris Rench, Greta Rice and

Dennis & Rachel Hundsdorfer. We also want to extend special thanks to all the businesses that have donated services and materials. They are: BlindQuest in Troy, Darnell's General Store, Doty Sanitation, RP Lumber, Mark's Heating & Cooling and Donaldson Carpet & Floor Covering in Vandalia.

BCHS also wants to thank Mrs. Kuentler and her High School Drawing, Painting, Design and Graphics classes for their creativity and time to paint a cat mural in the adult cat room.

Mark your calendars now to attend the Grand Opening on April 29. The festivities will be held from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. A reception is planned with soft drinks, coffee and snacks.

Volunteers are desperately needed to help perform various office duties; answer phone calls, enter data into computer systems, perform adoptions, clean litter boxes and more. Anyone interested in volunteering should call 664-4068.

BCHS Joins IAWF

Bond County Humane Society has become a member of the Illinois Animal Welfare Federation (IAWF). IAWF plays a major role in Animal Welfare legislation in Illinois. BCCHS has recently been selected by IAWF to receive a \$350 scholarship for attending this year's Prairie States Conference held for 3 days in June in Springfield, IL. This scholarship will make it possible for 3 people from BCCHS to attend the conference.

ANIMAL WELFARE IN ILLINOIS

An article published in the Fall 2006 issue of Humane Society of the United States "Regional News" stated that Illinois cruelty statutes are above-average compared with many states. However, under "owner's duties" for companion animals, the law requires "adequate shelter and protection from the weather." But what does "adequate" mean? A derelict car might be considered "adequate" by one person, while another might find it completely unacceptable. Without a law stating that shelter must be provided or standards with which the owner must comply, there is very little an officer can do. Legislation is needed to implement clear, concise guidelines for what is considered to be the definition of acceptable shelter where it is currently lacking in Illinois.

Fundraising

Bond County Humane Society thanks all the volunteers who generously donate their time and energy to help us help the animals.

The number of fundraising events for 2007 has increased from 2006. In addition, some of the events BCCHS previously participated in have been eliminated because of poor results.

Following is a partial list of fundraising events planned for 2007.

February 16	Spaghetti Dinner at Greenville VFW
March 16	Bar-B-Que at Greenville Capri IGA
April 14	Rummage Sale at the First Presbyterian Church, Greenville
June 2	Bake Sale at Highland Walmart
June 24	Bar-B-Que at Nuby's Steakhouse
July 4	Cotton candy sales at Patriot's Park, Greenville
August 18	Bar-B-Que at Greenville Capri IGA
September 8	Paws in the Park at Patriot's Park, Greenville
October 19	Halloween Dinner/Dance at Greenville VFW
November 23,	Gift wrapping at Borders in Fairview
December 7, 9	Heights
21 & 23	

Quilt Raffle

Raffle tickets for a beautiful queen size quilt with a Labrador Retriever theme donated by Sharon Vandervort are available at Scott's Package Store, Professional Services of Bond County and Watson's Drug Store through October 19. The winning raffle ticket will be drawn at the Halloween Dinner/Dance on Friday night, October 19.

Pennies for Puppies

Greenville Elementary School (GES) character education word of the month of April is FAIRNESS. All animals deserve a FAIR chance at a good life. To help provide a FAIR life for animals, GES is collecting "Pennies for Puppies". Students bring in spare change to the collection jars in each classroom. All proceeds go to help the animals at Bond County Humane Society.

Recycle for Rescue

A new recycling program is being coordinated by Carla Maples and Renea Barnes. Part of the program will focus on recycling aluminum cans. Ted's Recycling has created a BCCHS account that allows people to donate their recycling money to BCCHS. The other part of the program is targeted at recycling printer cartridges, toner cartridges and digital cell phones. This program will provide BCCHS with a constant monthly income that is desperately needed to remain in business.

Save-A-Pet

Save-A-Pet cards are available for purchase at Scott's Package Store & Greenville Vet Clinic. Make a donation of \$1.00 per card and your card will be displayed to let everyone know you are "Helping Us Help the Animals".

In Loving Memory

Bond County Humane Society mourns the loss of one of their members, Dan Brassel. Dan will be sadly missed. We extend our sympathy to his family, friends and canine companions Billy and Sassy.

Donations have been received in memory of:

Doris Koonce
Marie Lane
Randy Spies
Eldon Neumann
Richard Barbee, Sr.
Delores Bass Steiner
Gary Kottmann
Dan Brassel

Spanky, 13 yr. old Cocker Spaniel beloved pet of Karen Watson.

Sissy, beloved pet of Julia & Steve Zassoda.

Sophie & Sadie, beloved pets of Dennis & Rachel Hundsdorfer

Bear & Nikka, beloved pets of Dale & Greta Rice.

Donations were made by the family and friends of Melvin & Frances Zobrist in celebration of their 50th Wedding Anniversary.

Volunteer Corner

BCHS could not exist without donations and volunteers. Both are equally important and necessary. BCBS is fortunate to have several youth volunteers who are willing to give up their Saturdays to help with the cats and dogs at adoption events. They help unload and load the van, walk the dogs, make sure the animals have water, clean up messes, and the list goes on. I asked one of the volunteers to write an article on why she volunteers her time. Here is what she wrote.

Hi, I am a volunteer at Bond County Humane Society. My name is Sarah Kolodgie, I am 14. I started volunteering about 10 months ago. In 10 months I've heard a lot of stories, so many sad stories with happy endings. There are so many animals that are homeless, being dumped and abused. I wanted to start volunteering here because I absolutely love animals and I want to help them. We make sure they go to good homes.

The thing I most like about volunteering here is that I get to help the animals. I like seeing the little kids faces light up when they see the cats and dogs and it's so much fun! Yes, it's a lot of work and at the end of the day I am tired and I smell like dogs, but it's all

worth it. I have to say the saddest part of volunteering is when I have to say goodbye. Then that's the happiest part too. When it all comes to an end you can't have any favorites because they are all so cute and sweet. I love what I do.

WE NEED

Volunteers for Adoption Events
Volunteers for Fundraising
Volunteers for Office, Adoption Center, Cat Shelter
Volunteers for Dog Kennel
Volunteers to publish quarterly Newsletter
Foster homes for cats and dogs
Towels, baby blankets, bedspreads
Paper towels
Disinfecting hand wipes
Clean up spray with bleach
Bleach
Cat litter boxes
Small and medium size pet carriers (used or new)
Small and medium size dog collars (used or new)
Dog leashes (6-ft)
Cat & dog toys
Cat & dog treats
Cat litter (ExquisiCat Scoop Blend)

2007 Membership Renewals

Annual membership dues for 2007 are due. The BCBS 2007 year is January through December. If you haven't already renewed your membership please do so now. Every membership is important to BCBS.

- A \$10 membership will help micro chip a cat or dog.
- A \$30 membership will help feed a cat or dog for a month.
- A \$50 membership will spay or neuter one dog.
- A \$100 membership will help treat one dog for heartworm disease.

Without your support we cannot continue to help the cats & dogs of Bond County and surrounding communities.

We are always trying to increase our membership so if you know someone who loves animals and wants to help please tell them to call 664-4068. We will be glad to send them a membership application.

Membership Meetings

Membership meetings are held the second Thursday night of every month at 7:30 p.m. at the Free Methodist Gateway Center on Chicago Street.