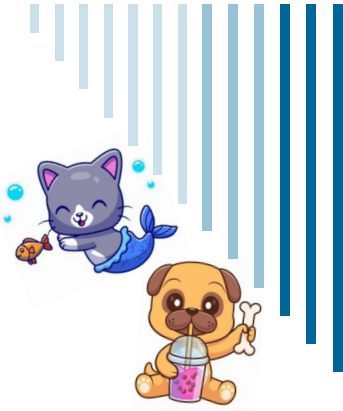




# The Pet Dispatch

## Summer, September 2025

Official Newsletter of Bond County Humane Society

#ConsiderAShelterPet

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### Find us!

2510 S. Elm St.  
Greenville, IL 62246  
618-664-4068  
bchs4pets@sbcglobal.net  
[www.bondcohumane.org](http://www.bondcohumane.org)



[bondcohs](#) on Instagram  
[bondcohs](#) on Facebook  
Shelter hours, 1-5pm  
Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri.  
(Sun, Wed by appt only.)

### Happy Tails & Rescue Stories

Stories of Bond County Humane Society pets' happy adopted endings

#### This is Belle's Happy Tail!

BCHS rescued Terrier Belle from Bond County Animal Control in September 2024, and she went straight into foster care. She was about two years old and had some kind of allergies that made her skin around her eyes all red! Well, that certainly didn't stop her caregivers from foster failing and they adopted her in January 2025. Her parents checked in with this pup-date:



"Belle is doing great. Loves everybody and we all love

her. She warms our

hearts every day. You've been wonderful to work with, helping us with Belle's itching and all it took to get her from rescued and uncomfortable to a fantastic dog who loves her dog bed in our bedroom, her walks around the property, and cuddling with our son on the couch when he visits. Thank you!"

— Joe and Janet Richardson, Mar. 2025



#### This is Bruno's Happy Tail!

Longhaired tabby kitten Bruno came to BCHS from Bond County Animal Control and found his forever tribe just in time for the 2024 Holidays. His adoptive family shared:

"This was Bruno's first Thanksgiving. It was a 'rough' day as you can see... and this was Bruno right after we put up the Christmas tree. And also right before he decided to climb up into the tree just to rest and sleep on the branches! I think he is settling in quite well! Thank you again so much!"

— Ashlie Lee, Nov. & Dec. 2024



## Rehome by Adopt a Pet

Bond County Humane Society is limited by space, volunteer workers, and fosters for taking in animals. When we are at capacity, that's when *Rehome by Adopt a Pet* can help—reaching out to hundreds of potential adopters! You post your pet online yourself for adoption at *Rehome by Adopt a Pet*. If you click through our referral link, your adoptable pet will even show up on our website's Community Pets page. <https://link.bondcohumane.org/rehome>

Owners add their pet's information and photos to Rehome and pay a small one-time-per-pet listing fee to list their pet. Enter this coupon code to reduce your listing fee by 90%: **RCXHAQTL2U8AD8Z**.

Adopt a Pet continues to guide the owner through reviewing applications, meeting potential adopters safely, and finalizing the adoption.



**Rehome** by Adopt a Pet

Pet lovers and supporters of BCHS can easily make a secure donation online anytime:

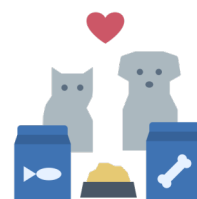
[bondcohumane.org/donate.html](https://bondcohumane.org/donate.html)



**VOLUNTEERING** can mean shifts of shelter care, animal feeding, kitten socializing, dog walking, office work, fostering, etc. OR assistance at adoption events. We have these opportunities and more for responsible and dependable adults, families, teens, and retirees with a wide variety of interests and abilities. Volunteer once a week, once a month, or more!



**January—August 2025,  
BCHS has taken in  
104 animals & found  
forever homes for  
65 pets in 2025, our 22nd  
Anniversary!!**



## Pet Food Cupboard Program

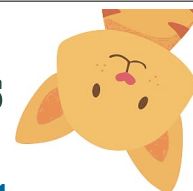
Do you struggle month to month to feed your pet? We have a **FREE PET FOOD CUPBOARD** offering prescription, specialty-diet, and formulas not part of BCHS shelter pets' diet. Wet and dry foods subject to availability. Limited quantity of food dispersed per claimant per visit.

**12 Foster Homes**

**32 Pets in Foster**



**30  
Pets in Shelter**



Inventory stats as of  
August 31, 2025.

## Membership Meetings, Volunteer Opportunities, & Spay/Neuter

In order for BCHS to fulfill its mission it takes a lot of effort on the part of many people!

**Membership Meetings** are no longer held regularly but scheduled by the board as needed. Society memberships are renewed in the first part of every calendar year. See form on back page!

**Low Cost Spay/Neuter Programs** Over the last 22 years we've made pet population reduction a major part of our mission. Our spay/neuter coordination in 2025 YTD has helped alter **110** animals in Bond County and close surrounding areas, preventing the unwanted litters.

**Snip. Snip Hooray! Cat Spay/Neuter is Back!** During 2023, APL ended their spay/neuter clinics for shelter partners; then we depleted our vouchers grant from SNIP Alliance. But, thanks to Hartz Second Chance in Collinsville, we are again offering a low-cost spay/neuter transport option for feral, free roaming, and companion CATS. Contact our office for more info and for options in our area to spay/neuter your pets. Donations welcome to support clinic transports & replenish our voucher program. Plus, read about our 2025 TNVR Grants on page 4.



## FCI Employees Club Donates Contest Proceeds to Help Kittens and Pups



Thank you to Federal Correctional Institution (FCI) Greenville Employees Club for holding their Cutest Pet Contest as a fundraiser! Members of the club stopped by the shelter on April 17th to hand-deliver their donation to us. We immediately applied it towards vet bills because... you guessed it... kitten season! So much spaying, neutering, and vaccinating to do! Thanks again to the employees of our neighbor off State Highway 40!

Did you know? FCI's minimum security satellite camp Inmate Program periodically provides BCHS with several shelter workers for kennel assistance and pet socialization! Some of the program's graduating women have even adopted pets from us after their release and once they've secured steady employment!

## Enhancing Feline Lives with New Catio

Foster home volunteer Gabriel Gigliotti has donated a new enrichment opportunity for adoptable shelter cats: a Catio! This screened play area has been installed outside the window in Community Room 1. The adult cats now have a closer view of the outdoors, allowing them to watch wild songbirds flutter by and spot puppies playing in the yard. Gigliotti, along with Dennis Hundsorfer, the Vice President of Facilities at BCHS, made modifications to the purchased structure so that it connects to the shelter windows.



**Road Block Fundraiser in Greenville on Apr 12<sup>th</sup> brought in \$2000+ !!**



**Bond Co. Fair Carnival Ticket Booth Jul 31-Aug 5 brought in \$1000**



**Pampered Chef Virtual Shopping Party Aug 7-Sep 5 brought in \$200+**

### Upcoming Fundraisers:

- ✿ **Capri Market IGA Greenville "Give Back at the Register" (TBD 2025)**
- ✿ **Paws In The Park w/ dog costume parade, dog contests, dog art booth, silent auction, photos & selfies (Oct 18, 2025 11a-3p @ Bond Co Fairgrounds. *See poster on page 7 and visit us on the web for more details!*)**
- ✿ **Road Block (Oct 2025)**
- ✿ **Giving Tuesday (Dec 2, 2025)**



**Gabriel Gigliotti and Dennis Hundsorfer install new Catio onto the window of Community Cat Room 1.**

## Foster Spotlight: Meet Bret Koca

Hi, My name is Bret Koca. I call Braceville, Illinois home, but my wife Adele and our family have been in Alhambra, about two years now; close enough to foster for the shelter in Greenville. We were looking for a place to help out with adoptable pets and a check on the internet easily led us to you, BCHS!

So, I am a feline foster parent. I do my best to socialize, care for, and have fun with cats and kittens that need an “in between” home—in between rescue and forever.

I’ve had many roommates (pets) over the years; mostly cats but some dogs, as well. We currently raise chickens, and have in the past raised quail, ducks, turkeys. We’re looking forward to the next type of farm animal: poultry or not!



**Me and Frosty. Sometimes fostering is hard work!**



When I’m not tending to my foster cats, you might find me doing forestry stewardship, carpentry, gardening, and definitely spending time with my children.

We have a veterinarian uncle who would donate his time to help heal critters that didn’t have much of a chance. But my inspirations that really got me going with animal welfare and fostering are my wife Adele and our late cat, Possum. Adele opened my eyes to the needs of those without homes, and Possum taught me how to respect cats.

Working with BCHS, I’ve learned that there are people who continue to have a passion to help... even after SO MANY long years! I’m grateful to all of the BCHS team members for what they do on a day-to-day basis. It’s not for the money. It’s for love.

Here’s my advice: It can be hard watching your foster go to a new adoptive home, but your work helps get them there! It allows for more homeless animals to have a chance at a good life!



## Confessions of a Community Cat Coordinator

By Jennifer Baird

If you see me out in your neighbors’ yard at night setting traps full of sardines, or in the early morning hours with my flashlight seeing how many cats I was able to catch, please do not call the police. Please also pretend like you don’t hear my screams when I find a possum, skunk, or raccoon instead and have to try to get it out of the trap. Spoiler alert: They don’t usually want to leave until you leave. These are the confessions of a Community Cat Coordinator.

Earlier this year, Bond County Humane Society announced we had been awarded two grants for our Save the Cats of Bond County Trap-Neuter-Vaccinate-Return program: a Rachael Ray No-Kill Excellence Grant from Best Friends Animal Society AND a City of Greenville, Illinois grant. So we wanted to provide an update.

BCHS collaborates closely with Jim Hess of Bond County Animal Control for each TNVR case. Cat caregivers contact Animal Control, and Officer Hess decides whether to involve BCHS’s Community Cat Coordinator. As someone who’s passionate about this work, I’m always ready to answer that call!

So far in 2025, we’ve spayed or neutered 39 cats across 8 communities in Bond County, with more planned. We’ve provided sturdy, insulated shelters, food, and medicine as needed. Our shelter and foster homes have taken in litters of adoptable kittens, helping to curb the growing number of outdoor cats. When the local resources cannot take any more cats/kittens, Officer Hess then reaches out to other no-kill shelters in the metro-east area to save them from euthanasia.

For those with pets, vet bills can add up quickly. Imagine caring for 10 strays—it’s overwhelming. The TNVR program helps break the cycle of overpopulation by trapping, sterilizing, and returning



cats to their colony, even preventing newcomers from invading.

My journey as a “crazy cat lady” began when a momma cat had

*(Continued on page 5)*

## Donations & Memorials

Remember, BCHS is a primarily volunteer-based organization operating solely on membership dues, donations, fundraisers, and grants. It receives no funding from city, county, state or federal governments, or any other private organization. Bond County Humane Society is an independent entity NOT financially affiliated with nor financially backed by Humane Society of the United States. We need your direct local support to continue our efforts in helping the animals of Bond County. Together we can all make a difference!

**Help save unwanted, lost, stray, and neglected pets any time of the year with charitable gifts!**

Bond County Humane Society is an IRS approved 501(c)3 charitable organization so all donations, including assets, are tax deductible in accordance with IRS guidelines. BCHS's Tax ID Number is 37-1470493

**See the Donation Form on the last page of this newsletter, visit the Donate Page on our website, or call our office to find out all of your gifting options.**

[bondcophumane.org/donate.html](http://bondcophumane.org/donate.html) 618-664-4068  
2510 S. Elm Street, Greenville, IL 62246

**Memorialize a relative, friend or animal companion with a **PLAQUE** on our **MEMORY WALL**.**

The name will be inscribed on a brass plate mounted on the walls in our Greenville office & adoption center. Your donation will create a lasting tribute to your loved one and help enrich the lives of animals in BCHS's care. There are now five donation categories: Animal Friends (\$25 - \$99, acknowledged in newsletter/website only as of 2022), Animal Lovers (\$100 - \$499), Animal Sponsors (\$500 - \$2499), Animal Angels (\$2500 - \$4999), and Animal Heroes (\$5000 and up).

## In Loving Memory

Donations have been received between January 21 - August 31, 2025 in MEMORY of...

### Animal Lovers (\$100 - \$499):

- ... **Dr. Erin Ruth Baker** by Mike & Elaine Westbrook, Bond County Memorial VFW Aux, Nancy Ibert, Linda J. Gehrig.
- ... **Dianne Barbey** by Gail Harnetiaux.
- ... **Lowell Bidwell** by Ruth Wise & Paul Steiner.
- ... **Lori Smith File** by Lori & Joe Coco and Salle Lavery-Deary.
- ... **Donna Hair** by Joan & Thomas Krummenacher and Retina Consultants, Ltd.
- ... **Bob Howard** by Richard & Cynthia Adkins, Lynn & Rick Blockyou, John & Nancy Hubbell, Mark Helmer, and Nancy Marti.
- ... **Dianne Kuhn** by Susanna Rommerskirchen.
- ... **Jeannie Maroon** by Joy L. File, Ralph & Bonnie Ritzheimer, David & Judy Sturgeon, Peg Helige, Gloria Hertz, Steve Ross, Janet Verhaus, Lida Viregge, Howard & Judy Elmore, Alan Gaffner, and Linda J Gehrig.

### Animal Friends (\$25 - \$99):

- ... **Daisy**, beloved dog, by Irene & Marc Seale.
- ... **Daisy**, beloved pet of their friend Cindy, by Roger & Kathy Reeves.

- ... **Éclair and Miracle**, beloved cats of KayAnna Warthen, by Susan & Jack Chism.
- ... **Murphy**, beloved pet of Amanda & Josh Brown, by Jackie Gruner.
- ... **Sofie**, beloved dog, by Glen & Chery Mueller.
- ... **James "Swifty" Blankenship** by Karan Belcher.
- ... **Harry Bohle** by Frank & Connie Michaels.
- ... **Cole Campbell** (and in honor of his dog **Apollo**) by Susan & Jack Chism.
- ... **Cole Campbell** by Randall Neumann.
- ... **James Coleman** by Randall Neumann.
- ... **Hazel Huels** by Mike & Elaine Westbrook.

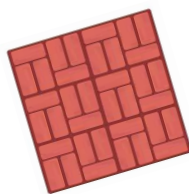
### TNVR... *(Continued from page 4)*

kittens in my backyard. I fostered those kittens with BCHS's help, ultimately adopting two myself: foster failure! But, it inspired me to join the TNVR program, I wanted to assist others in similar situations. An older community caregiver on a fixed income couldn't afford to spay/neuter the 7 cats she cared for. We discovered that one of those cats was hiding 6 nursing kittens, leading me to foster them in an emergency. Results may vary with every community  cat coordinator.

While the job isn't always glamorous—often you leave smelling like cat pee—it's incredibly rewarding. We hope to secure more grants next year and help more communities on our waitlist. If you're interested in becoming a coordinator, fostering, or volunteering, contact BCHS or me, Jen B, for more information!



## Engraved Bricks Purchases By...



## Order Your Own Plaza Brick Today!

Orders received between  
January 1 - August 31, 2025

... Haley Adrian, "In honor of [dog] **Jake**, 2014-2023. Love You Always."

... Barb Tackett's work friends c/o Kasey Laughlin, "In Loving Memory of **Janet Beavers** [Barb's mother]. We love and miss you."

## Lifetime Memberships

Pam Chase  
Joe & Caryl Culumber  
Debra Dixon  
John Duft & June Blaine  
Dan & Mignon Fetterhoff  
John & Nancy Gillard  
John & Gina Goldsmith  
Michelle Grist-Merrifield  
Jeff Hemker  
Rick & Jane Hilliard  
Jane Hopkins  
Dennis & Rachel Hundsorfer  
Carolyn Johnson  
Julie Juarez-Heckman

Mary Kasmark  
Mike & Cindy Lotz  
Barb McClure  
James & Nona Nance  
James Plunkett  
Ken Slatton  
Nyla Strole  
David Voils  
KayAnna Warthen  
Kit & Mark Whittington  
Kathleen R. Wildi  
Dave & Mary Ann Willey  
Amanda Zeller

## Monthly Pledge Donors

Janice Carr  
Margaret Chase  
Debra Dixon  
Michael Heath  
Judy Hulskotter  
Lonnie & Karen Kessinger  
Barb McClure  
Jennifer Mendes  
Robert & Michelle Schaeg  
Milton Smith



## Thank You For All Of Your Donations!

Donations received between  
January 21 - August 31, 2025

**Animal Angels (\$2500 - \$4999):**

Anonymous  
Michelle Grist-Merrifield  
MasterCard (*matching corporate gift*)

**Animal Angels (\$2500 - \$4999):**

Debra Dixon

**Animal Sponsors (\$500 - \$2499):**

Gross Family Fund, *towards Spay/Neuter Program*  
Bond County Fair Association  
Renaissance Charitable Foundation  
Greg Davis & Christine Vince  
June & John Duft  
Jeffrey Flamm  
John & Nancy Gillard  
Steven & Kae Schmitt

**Animal Lovers (\$100 - \$499):**

Live Laugh Illinois Real Estate /  
Jessica Michalke, *on behalf of homebuyer Jason Funderburk*

Cindy Moser, *towards Spay/Neuter Program*

Anonymous  
Buchheit of Greenville (*Fundraiser*)  
FCI Greenville Employees Club (*proceeds from their Cutest Pet Contest*)

Furever There, LLC  
Petco Donor Box  
Jane Almand  
Cole Boatright  
Larry & Karen Boudouris  
Roger Ennen  
Jonathan & Barbara File  
Bella Hodges (*also donated a cat tree, litter, and Fortiflora*)  
Crystal Lawler

Roger Neier  
Sue Waldrop  
Carol Ziemba

**Animal Friends (\$25 - \$99):**

Marlene & Brad Neece, *in honor of Michelle Grist-Merrifield's birthday*

Janell Smith, *in honor of Jennifer Baird's birthday*

Anonymous  
Kahuna's Burgers N More  
Jean Burnett  
Robin Davis  
Melba Grotts  
Jacqueline Hammer  
James & Nona Nance and Selah Field  
John & Charlotte Nesbit  
Deedra Pestle  
Debra Shaw  
Debra Schwenk



**PAWS IN THE PARK SPONSORSHIPS OPEN NOW!**

**SATURDAY, OCT. 18, 2025  
11 AM - 3 PM  
BOND COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS**

**ACTIVITIES**

- Dog Art Booth
- Family Pet Photos
- Selfie Picture Station
- Silent Auction
- 50/50 Raffle
- Health & Wellness Booth
- Food Vendors

**DOG CONTESTS**

- Costume Parade
- Pie Eating
- Best Kisser
- Fastest Fetch
- Longest Down
- Best Tricks
- Cutest Pet Photo
- Best Howler



## Rest In Peace, SHEILA

Sheila, our chestnut Newfoundland mix, spent her senior years in a permanent foster home. After a long journey with us through several owners and fosters, she truly lived her best doggie life until she passed away mid-2025 at 16 years old.

Memorial donations towards the foster/adoption of other mature/senior animals in BCHS care would mean so much to us!



## Available, Adorable, Adoptable!

Please help us find homes for these wonderful animals. **Adoptions** are conducted at the BCHS office & adoption center at 2510 S. Elm Street in Greenville and at the Petco store in Fairview Heights 11a-3p most Saturdays.

You can visit our website for more information and see more adoptable pets, plus grab a pet adoption application form – [bondcohumane.org/adopt.html](https://bondcohumane.org/adopt.html)

Standard adoption fees range from \$65 (for adult cats) up to \$350 (for puppies) and the fee includes veterinary testing and treatment, routine shots/vaccinations, spay/neuter surgery, and state-mandated microchipping.



**Freckles**



**Charlie**



## Go Online & Browse All Back Issues of Bond County Humane Society's "The Pet Dispatch" Newsletter! [bondcohumane.org/newsletter.html](https://bondcohumane.org/newsletter.html)

Thank you to everyone who contributed stories, letters, facts, ideas, & photos that have helped create the Summer 2025 issue of "The Pet Dispatch", the Official Newsletter of Bond County Humane Society.

–Rebecca Clausen, newsletter editor, lay-out design editor & VP Communications; Rachel Hundsdorfer, Acting President; Michelle Grist-Merrifield, VP Fund-raising; Dennis Hundsdorfer, VP Facilities; Jackie Gruner, Treasurer; Jane Hopkins, Secretary, Jennifer Baird, Member At Large.

Wondering how you can help BCHS in 2025-2026? Join our membership and volunteer to serve as an officer or program manager!! We have great fun *and make lifelong friendships while performing our mission to save adoptable pets*. Open Officer Positions include: VP Membership, VP Volunteers, VP Grants, and President.

## DONATIONS

Purchase supplies for dogs, cats, the shelter, or office from our Wish List on our website!

And check out our online Wish Lists at Amazon

<https://a.co/9RRzBwo>

& Chewy <https://bit.ly/chewyBCHSwish>



Make us your charity of choice on Walmart Spark Good, WoofTrax's Walk for a Dog, and eBay for Charity.

**DONATIONS MAY BE TAX-DEDUCTIBLE !**

## Make Pet Adoption Your First Option!



Bond County Humane Society  
2510 S. Elm Street  
Greenville, IL 62246

NON-PROFIT  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT 172

### The Pet Dispatch—Official Newsletter of Bond County Humane Society— Summer 2025 Edition

Generate donations for BCHS when you take  
a WALK or a RUN! Download the WoofTrax  
app to your smartphone today!



**PAWS IN THE PARK is Oct 18, 2025  
@ BOND COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS**

Join us for Dog Costume Parade, Dog  
Contests, Silent Auction, Photos, &  
More. *Visit us on the web for details!*

Or Current Resident

Please consider becoming a member of Bond County Humane Society. If you know someone who is a pet lover and has not yet joined, invite them to become a member. Also, take this occasion to 1) Pledge a recurring donation which helps form a predictable source of income BCHS can count on to fund our programs, or 2) Sponsor a cat or dog living in BCHS care. **Each donation is tax-deductible and many companies will match their employees' donations to 501(c)3 charitable orgs like BCHS!**

#### ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP AND DONATION FORM:

Yes, I would like to become a member of Bond County Humane Society:

- ☐ \$1,000.00 Lifetime
- ☐ \$100.00 Corporation / Organization
- ☐ \$50.00 Family
- ☐ \$30.00 Individual
- ☐ \$15.00 Senior (60 and older) / High School or College Student
- ☐ Other (Donation only, non-member). \$\_\_\_\_\_ Gift in memory of \_\_\_\_\_ ( cat / dog / person ).
- ☐ Pledge a Recurring Donation: \$\_\_\_\_\_ Monthly \$\_\_\_\_\_ Quarterly \$\_\_\_\_\_ Annual.
- ☐ Sponsor-A-Pet Donation: \$\_\_\_\_\_ One-Time \$\_\_\_\_\_ Monthly \$\_\_\_\_\_ Annual. BCHS Pet Name \_\_\_\_\_.

**We need your direct local  
support to help the animals.  
Give Today!**



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail check or money order payable to: Bond County Humane Society