

FALL 2019

HSMCIL
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Macomb, IL 61455

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Inside this issue:

Zuma's Journey	2
Brownie Troop	3
Harley and Friends	3
'Neck Up the Square	4
Vino and Vinyl	4
Board Members	5
WIU HSSA	5
Pet of the Week Promo	6
Gimme Shelter	7
Business Members	7
Brix Challenge	8

Humane Society of McDonough County

Waggin' Tales



Dear Friends,

As we close the summer season, we find the shelter overflowing with cats and the number of dogs picked up as strays or released by their owners increasing daily. Most animals come into the shelter because of circumstances outside of their control and desperately want to get back home or to find their new forever home. There's nothing much better than seeing the smiles on the faces of a family or individuals claiming their cat or dog, or taking their newly adopted pet home from the shelter -- unless it's the happy body language of the dog or cat as they realize they are leaving the shelter and going home. In this issue of *Waggin' Tales*, we're featuring a couple of happy adoption stories so you can share in the joy.

I'm amazed at how resilient dogs and cats are and how their personalities evolve when they are in a nurturing environment where they can trust and gain confidence that they know what is expected of them. They deserve that opportunity. And they give so much back in return. You'll read about a couple of the dogs we've rescued this year who have benefitted from having foster homes provide them a positive time of transition to their forever homes.

The 2019 Brix Challenge begins October 1st and supports the HSMC's ongoing support of community and shelter animals. Over the past 5 years, this fundraiser has raised a quarter of our annual operating budget. We rely on these donations for spay/neuter transports, rescue and foster, and medical assistance for animals in need.

We continue to build support for the HSMC building campaign for a new county shelter. The current shelter, built in the early 1980s, is feeling its age with infrastructure problems and lack of sorely needed specialized space. A new animal shelter will be a great addition to the community and further its care for needy animals. The animals will be housed in a facility that will better guard their health and emotional wellbeing. The public will have a better environment in which to get acquainted with potential pets and to learn more about pet care and training. We will be putting our campaign in full gear this year. We hope you join us in making this dream a reality.

Please let us know if you have questions or ideas for how to better serve the community and its animals. We value your input and involvement, and welcome your feedback.

Enjoy the cooler temperatures and coming fall colors.

*Bonnie Smith-Skripps
HSMC President*





SUCCESS STORIES

Zuma's Journey

Zuma entered the animal shelter in July 2018 after being picked up as a stray. She was a one-year-old Australian Cattle Dog/Heeler mix with lots of energy to expend. If Zuma had her way,



she'd have a volunteer playing fetch with her all day long. After being overlooked by potential adopters at the shelter we found her a foster home where she lived with Rachel and Zack and their dog, Duck, receiving lots of love and attention. However, staying in a kennel all day while her foster parents worked wasn't an ideal situation for her. She needed more wideopen space in which to run and play. Lars Gossel stepped in and took her to Gossel's Dog House as a foster. A month later, he adopted her to be part of his dog pack at the farm. Zuma now has her buddies and a fenced-in field in which to romp.



Did you know...

Each dog, and now each cat, adopted from the shelter leaves to go to its new home already altered, up-to-date on vaccines, and micro chipped. The HSMC contributes \$35 per animal toward its spay/neuter. The adopter pays \$127-\$130 for a dog (depending on weight) and \$111 for a cat. The adoption fee is less if the animal entered the shelter already altered.

McDonough County Animal Shelter

101 Tower Road
Macomb, IL 61455
Phone: 309-837-2989

Animal Control Officers:
Kirsta Lyles
Joe Rossmiller

Email: mcas@macomb.com

The McDonough County Animal Shelter is a county-run facility staffed by county employees. The HSMC does not have independent access to the shelter, nor the authority to arrange adoptions. The HSMC works diligently to promote adoption of the animals available at the McDonough County Animal Shelter.

Hours of Operation

Open to the Public:
Mon - Fri: 11:00 am - 5:00 pm
Sat: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Sunday: CLOSED to the Public
Holidays: CLOSED to the Public



Brownie Troop 5656 Volunteers at the Animal Shelter

Members of Brownie Troop 5656 recently volunteered at the Animal Shelter. They carried trash, pulled weeds, and loaded the truck with food for the Pet Food Pantry



HEAVE –HO!

Resting after hard work!

Harley, HSMC's Latest Foster Dog

It was time to find Harley a rescue or a foster family. Lars is fostering her for us and Harley is as happy as she can be. She has new friends and wide open spaces in which to run and play. Lars says: "Harley is our second foster dog and we do not get why she is here. Absolute sweetheart with people and loves to play with dogs. Cats don't really like her because of her playful behavior but you can see that she is calm enough for them to tolerate her. Please . . . help her get a home she deserves. Just look at her!" She is currently at Gossel's Dog House. If you would like to meet Harley to consider adoption, contact Pat Stewart, HSMC Foster Coordinator at stewartpm42@outlook.com. Thank you, Lars, for loving our furry friends like you do!



*Harley
and
Friends!*

'Neck Up the Square!

On August 23rd, the HSMC participated in “Neck Up the Square” welcoming students to Western. We made ID tags for students’ and community members’ pets and introduced shelter dog Ruby and a couple of kittens to participants. We wanted students and the general public to know the importance of having their dogs wear identification tags as well as being micro chipped and registered with the County.

One of the HSMC tag machines is now at the shelter. ID tags can be made for your cat or dog for \$6. Our other tag machine is at All Pets Veterinary Clinic.

And, on a special note, Ruby ended up finding her new best friend and forever home with HSMC Board member, JB!



Brenda, Bonnie, and Terri with kittens and ID tag machine



Amy with sign and flyers

JB
with Ruby



Vino and Vinyl at Chubby's

On the evening of September 12th, a “Vino and Vinyl” event was held at Chubby’s. Bill Maakestad and his guest DJ, Bill Jacobs, spun favorite LP’s and 45’s from the attendees. Donations were collected in the amount of \$389 and will go toward the new shelter campaign.



Bill discussing important business before spinning tunes



Sue Adams asking for more donations from the crowd



The HSMC table and nearly full donation pitcher

Do You Know the Names of the HSMC Board Members?

Officer/President	Bonnie Smith-Skripps
Officer/Vice President	Bill Johnson
Officer/Treasurer/Correspondence	Terri Hare
Officer/Recording Secretary	Cecelia Benelli
Director/Membership	Kate Shattuck
Director/Education Chair	Amy Betz
Director/County Shelter Project Manager	Max Kreps
Director/Pet Food Pantry	Dave Monninger
Director	Felix Chu
Director	Linda Andrews
Director	Sue Adams
Director	Brenda Neal
Director	Patti Douglas
Director	JB Biernbaum
Director	Pat Stewart

Way to Go, Team HSMC!

WIU Humane Society Service Association Makes Donation

The WIU Humane Society Service Association (HSSA) donated \$345 to the HSMC from fundraisers they have held over the past year. In the photo to the right are HSSA President Ryan Wood and HSSA Advisor/HSMC Treasurer Terri Hare. Thank you, HSSA members!



**Ryan and Terri with the HSSA
donation to the HSMC**

Q: What do my dog and my phone have in common?
A: They both have collar ID!

"Pet of the Week" Promotion Works!

By Bonnie Skripps



Bandit

"Bandit is a handsome Australian mix boy with great house manners and a cheery disposition. He loves to take walks and enjoys the company of other dogs. He's ready for an active life and promises to be a loyal companion." Bandit was featured on August 27th in the McDonough County Voice as Pet of the Week.

Four days later Sally Sallee came to the shelter to meet him after seeing his picture and reading his description. They hit it off immediately and Bandit went home with Sally that same day. Bandit, a stray who was brought to the shelter, quickly became Casey with his own house, fenced-in yard, bed and toys, and best of all, his new best friend.

When I called Sally to see how they were doing, she immediately said, "You can't have him back; I'm keeping him!" It took Casey awhile to explore the basket of toys left by Sally's former rescue dog. But she came home one day to find them all out on the floor with Casey trying out their various squeak functions. Casey has learned the word "ball" and knows where his food and treats are kept. He took a two-hour car ride to meet Sally's daughter and her two dogs, and all went well.

Bandit was a volunteer favorite at the shelter with his cheery disposition. It is gratifying to see him in his forever home and to hear of the bond that he and Sally have established along with their daily routines. Casey will be a loving and loyal companion for Sally and will be cared for and cherished as he so deserves. A big shout-out to Sally for adopting this special boy.



Casey (Bandit) at home



Casey (Bandit) with toy



Business Members

All Pets Veterinary Clinic
 American Legion Post 6
 Animal Medical Center
 Black Nugget, LLC
 Bushnell Veterinary Service, PC
 Captured Moments Photography
 Clugston-Tibbitts Funeral Home
 Dad's Place
 Free Range Yoga
 Gossel's Dog House
 Green Shingle Graphics
 Hickory Kennels
 Matthew S. McClure, DMD-PC
 MidAmerica National Bank Macomb
 Minus Muffler Garage and Towing
 No Place Like Home
 Pet Supplies Plus
 Purdum Gray Ingledue Beck, Inc.
 Sodexo
 Sweet Briar Corner Nursery
 The McDonough County Voice
 Wesley Village
 West Side Lumber

Proud supporters of the HSMC!



Annual Kris Moore Memorial Gimme Shelter Golf Outing

The annual event was held on August 11, 2019, with 18 teams participating in the golf tournament. Thank you to Jeff Moore, Lee Trotter, Max and Shelley Kreps, Sarah Wallick, for coordinating the event, to those who helped get door prizes, and to those who volunteered to help that day. All proceeds will be donated to the HSMC.

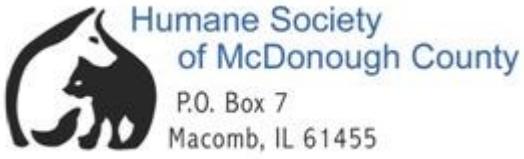


Left to right: Judy Eckerly, Julie Davis, HSMC Board Member Terri Hare, Laurie Davis

Safeguard Your Pets – Make Their Getting Back Home Easier

Your cats and dogs should always wear a collar with an ID tag showing your current contact information. This can assist people in quickly connecting with you if they find your pet. ID tags may be purchased at All Pets Veterinary Clinic or at the McDonough County Animal Shelter for \$6.

Each cat and dog should be micro chipped for further identification and to prevent their theft. Veterinary clinics and shelters must scan for microchips. You may get your pet chipped at the Animal Shelter for \$15 or at your veterinarian clinic.



Brix Challenge 2019

Supports the Humane Society of McDonough County!

For the sixth year in a row, Chris Brix is challenging this community in another fundraising event for the Humane Society of McDonough County. He has once again generously promised to match \$1,000 in donations to the HSMC that are received between now and October 31st, 2019.

Any amount you choose to donate will be greatly appreciated. All money received will support the important initiatives of the HSMC and will directly help animals in need in McDonough County. Please send your tax-deductible donations to:

HSMC/The Brix Challenge
P.O. Box 7
Macomb IL 61455



Chris and PeeWee

You may also use the PayPal or credit card option on the Humane Society website at www.hsmcil.org/donate.

Thank you for your consideration in supporting the Brix Challenge 2019!