

SPRING 2021

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Macomb, IL 61455

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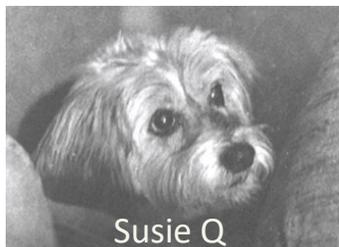
Humane Society of McDonough County

Waggin' Tales



The Suzie Q, Jesse, and Maggie May Tribute Challenge

A \$10,000 Match in Support of the HSMC's New Shelter Building Campaign



Susie Q



Jesse



Maggie May

A local family wants to celebrate the lives of three dogs they had adopted from the McDonough County Animal Shelter over the past two decades. This special tribute to their dogs will have a lasting impact upon our community and its needy animals. Suzie Q (adopted 1993, deceased 2002); Maggie May (adopted 2002, deceased 2013); and Jesse (adopted 2013, deceased 2018) were all very special little beings that brought great joy to the Quesal family, and left them with many fond and lasting memories. To honor their dogs' lives, as well as to demonstrate their support for the construction of a new animal shelter, Donna and Bob Quesal are challenging the McDonough County community (and others) to match their \$10,000 pet tribute contribution. They will donate \$10,000 to the New Shelter Building Fund if donations are raised to match or exceed that amount.

While the warm breezes, sunny skies, and budding trees and flowers have allowed us a much-needed lift of spirits after a long winter of being cocooned in our homes, it's an offer like the Quesal's **Suzie Q, Jesse, and Maggie May Tribute Challenge** that really puts smiles on our faces. What a wonderful kick-off for the Shelter Building Campaign! We hope you see this as an opportunity to honor your pets as well – both those that have crossed the Rainbow Bridge and those that are still in your lives. Maybe it's a pet that was a great comfort during a difficult time, or one who brought you much pleasure and support as a child. Or, the furry friend(s) that have been loyal companions during this year of COVID isolation, or one with whom you've shared a special bond. Or perhaps, you just want to contribute in recognition of the value of a new and improved animal shelter to the community, as well as in appreciation of the generosity of the Quesal's match challenge.

In this *Waggin' Tales* issue you'll see several examples of the great community support that the HSMC and the County's needy cats and dogs receive. We are blessed with the generosity of individuals and businesses that offer support in various ways - adoption sponsorship, special event donations, etc. In this spring issue of our newsletter we continue the practice of recognizing the memorials that have been directed to the HSMC over the past year. We thank the families who know how important pets were to their loved ones and honor them in this way.

While we did not plan large brick and mortar social fund-raising events like our traditional *Wine, Whiskers, and Whimsy* because of the uncertainty of COVID restrictions, we are hoping to connect with you in other ways over the next few months. We are especially excited to be kicking off the new shelter building campaign with this generous challenge from the Quesals.

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Coffee, Cars & Critters

Saturday, May 22, 2021

8:00am—11:00am

Farm King Supply

1620 E. Jackson, Macomb, IL



Humane Society of McDonough County Fundraiser!

To benefit the new Animal Shelter

Adoption event by McDonough County Animal Shelter!

(weather permitting)

Coffee and donuts: \$1.00 each, provided by
DJ and 50/50 drawing!



McDonough County Animal Shelter

101 Tower Road
Macomb, IL 61455
Phone: 309-837-2989
Animal Control Officers:
Kelsey Havens
Zack Welch
Joe Rossmiller (part-time)
Chris McKay (part-time)
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

Facebook:

[McDonoughCountyAnimalShelter](https://www.facebook.com/McDonoughCountyAnimalShelter)

Sebastian (aka Spice) in His New Forever Home

Spice had had a rough go of finding a home that worked out. His last seemed to be a good fit, but unfortunately his adopter passed away and he ended up back at the shelter once again. Then along came Barbara Gossett. And here's Sebastian's (aka Spice) happy next chapter. In Barb's words:

"This is the best thing I've done in a very long time!! It's been 16 years since I've had a dog. I started adopting cats because my last dog was perfect and when I had to put her down, it was traumatic. I didn't think there would ever be another dog as good as she was. Fast forward to February 2021, and a dear friend sent me the video of this little guy from the McDonough County Animal Shelter. I really liked the fact that he wasn't a puppy - 6 years old, and partially blind from cataracts. His previous owner had died and he just tugged at my heart-strings. I met him a few days later and fell in love!! He has adapted so very well to my four-cat household. We have established a routine, and he fits right in. He has me walking 5-6 miles a day, which is great. He is quite the charmer, quick the character and quite the sleeper!! I am SO glad he came into my life! The timing was perfect. Covid has taken its toll on life, but this little guy helped me get back into the swing of things. He's smart and silly. I think we make a great family - my four geriatric cats and my one lovable dude!! I really am so very glad I've got him. He's an amazing little guy!!!"



COVID Emergency Pet Food Drive Benefits the HSMC Pet Food Pantry and Genesis Garden

HSMC Thanks the McDonough County Emergency Services and Disaster Agency (ESDA) and the Illinois Department of Agriculture for the free food for dogs and other pets event on April 9th and 10th on WIU Campus. We picked up pallets of food for our Pet Food Pantry and for Genesis Garden to distribute to their clients. Dave Monninger bagged up the food in individual packets for distribution by Genesis Garden and for our emergency response.



HSMC Board Members 2021

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Max Kreps—Director
Dave Monninger—Director
Pat Stewart—Director
Ann Stites—Director
Jennifer Tibbitts—Director

Top Tips It's Time To Call The Vet

Karen Blakeley DVM, MPH

All Pets Veterinary Clinic, Macomb IL

There are many signs that your pet is in trouble and needs veterinary attention, and most pet owners can pick up on these easily. However, it is often small, subtle things that can go unnoticed or be dismissed as signs of "just getting older." Catching signs of disease or illness early can mean the difference between life and death so knowing what to look for is important. The remainder of this article will look at several things that you, as a pet owner, should pay attention to.

Weight loss. You see your pet every day and subtle drops in weight can easily go undetected or unnoticed until they are very dramatic. I commonly see animals that have lost 25-40 percent of their body weight and owners that say they thought they might have lost "a little weight". If you cannot weight your pet at home look and feel over their ribs, backbone, hips and abdomen. Can you feel ribs or a spine that used to be covered with muscle and fat? Does your pet have a waist or tuck that it never had before?

Pale gums. Lift up the lip of your pet once in awhile and check the color. It should be a nice, healthy pink color (with the exception of normal gum pigment in some individuals). If it is pale pink or whitish this can be an indication of anemia. If it is yellowish, this can be an indication of liver or gall bladder disease. If it is blue or purple, this can be an indication of heart issues. Flip the lip and look so you know what is normal in your pet.

Picky eating. Some pets are notoriously picky eaters and many owners have had to resort to adding canned food, table scraps, etc. to get their pet to eat. It is not uncommon for people to start this process and end up slowly shifting from pet food to people food over time without hardly noticing. While this is often not healthy or ideal for several reasons, it can also be an indication of a medical issue that is just being covered up by feeding different foods.

Big Belly. An abdomen that increases in size slowly can also go unnoticed early on. Bloating abdomens can be due to a variety of issues that cause fluid accumulation including heart, liver, and kidney disease as well as some types of cancers. Look at your pet when he/she is laying on his/her side. Does their abdomen seem to stick up more than it used to? Feel it when they are relaxed. Is it too firm? Tender? Jiggly?

Shifts in Behavior. Is your pet laying in odd places? Does he/she not greet you when you come home? Are other pets in the house interacting differently with their housemate pets? Is your pet overly clingy? These shifts in normal behaviors may be innocent but can be an early indication of larger issues. I once had a patient that came to the clinic with the only one complaint--occasional shaking while resting on the couch. The dog would tremor ever so slightly sometimes when it would exhale but her appetite, attitude, bathroom behaviors, etc. were all normal. The dog ended up having an aggressive abdominal tumor.

Limping That Won't Go Away. Again, there may be several explanations for stiffness/lameness, especially in older pets. But there are several types of cancers, including osteosarcoma, that cause progressive limping/lameness. I will commonly see second opinion cases for a lameness that is not improving on pain medication. And while many of these may be subtle ligament tears and other injuries some can be due to cancer.

Skin Wounds That Won't Heal. There are multiple conditions that cause reoccurring skin issues, such as allergies, and these can be very frustrating to control. It is never a bad idea to have a simple skin biopsy done on animals with chronic skin to make sure there isn't an undiagnosed autoimmune disease such as lupus or pemphigus or skin cancer.

Breathing Hard or Faster Than Normal at Rest. Count your pets resting respiration rate (number of breaths in one minute when your pet is asleep) several times over a few days to know what their normal number is. If your pets normal resting rate increases it can be a sign of heart disease, fluid accumulation from non-heart related causes, pain, etc. This is an easy thing to monitor at home and can make a huge difference if caught before the pet is in respiratory crisis.

The information contained here is for educational purposes only and is not intended to take the place of a veterinarian. As always, if you have questions regarding the health of your pet, contact your veterinarian.

(continued from page 1)

You can donate by sending the enclosed donation form and a check to HSMC, P.O. Box 7, Macomb, IL 61455, or via PayPal using newanimalshelter@hotmail.com. Remember your donation is tax deductible; we are a State of Illinois Not-for-Profit organization and a qualified 501(c)(3) Charitable organization.

Help Make Our Dream Shelter a Reality!



Make your donation TODAY!

Note: The Quesals currently share their lives with Lady, a little Cocker Spaniel they adopted from Pet Central Helps, a rescue in Bloomington, after Jesse passed.

RWE Renewables Gives Back to the Community

On Tuesday, April 6th, we received a donation of \$4000 for the New Animal Shelter Building Campaign from RWE Renewables Americas LLC. RWE Renewables is currently developing a 200 Mega Watt wind energy project in the southeastern corner of McDonough County.



We recognized Karen Ingledue, shown here with Rosie, with a Gift-in-Kind Business Guardian Membership for the discounted rate we receive for the storage unit at Shady Lane Storage Facility in Macomb.

Two dog owners are arguing about whose pet is smarter. "My dog is so smart," says the first owner, "that every morning he goes to the store and buys me a sesame seed bagel with chive cream cheese, stops off at Starbucks and picks me up a mocha latte, and then comes home and turns on ESPN, all before I get out of bed." "I know," says the second owner. "How do you know?" the first demands. "My dog told me."

In Memoriam

We thank those who chose to leave a legacy with the Humane Society of McDonough County, and to those who honored friends and family who departed in 2020 with a donation to our organization.

Missy Sweaty Pie Almon
Oscar Campbell
Madena Chuvala
Laura Sadler Cripe
David DeBoeuf
Slick Del Real
Debra Demonico
Kristen Dunstan
Lilybelle Enright
Cindy Faul
Susan Burger Firof
Ashleigh Fisher
Jan Flickinger
Marge Gillespie

Barb Glasow
Donna Goehner
Frances Griesenbrock
Bailey Higgs
Zeke Horton
Carol Jeffers
Kendall Lester
Tate Lindahl
Linda Lueck
Stephanie McCammon
Gus McGuire
James Miller
Agnes Nelson
Verona Nelson

St. Jude Parkinson
Lisa Parry
Ella Railsback
Jane Rings
Jane Russell
Patti Semick
Rio Shattuck-Dickson
Barbra Stein
L. K. Stoneking
Richardson Van Fossen
Cyndi Lou Who Vining
Linda Ward
Jeanette Weaver
Mandy Wright

2021 HSMC Sponsored Transports for Low Cost Spay Neuter

We have sponsored monthly transports to the Quincy Humane Society Low Cost Spay/Neuter Clinic since March this year, with a maximum number of 25 cats per transport. We have full registration through July. We are taking reservations for August through November.

Register now for spay/neuter of stray and feral cats at no charge to you, and companion cats for \$20. Distemper and rabies vaccines are included.

March 18—Full
April 15—Full
May 13—Full
June 17—Full
July 15—Full

August 19—Open
September 16—Open
October 14—Open
November 18—Open

You must pre-register.

Send your name, address, phone number and email,
with your cat(s) name, gender, coloring, and age to

humanesociety.mcil@gmail.com

Indicate which date you prefer.



Business Members

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 Dad's Place
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 No Place Like Home
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 Purdum Gray Ingledue Beck, Inc.
 Shady Lane Storage Facility
 Sweet Briar Corner Nursery
 The McDonough County Voice
 Wesley Village
 West Side Lumber

Proud supporters of the HSMC!

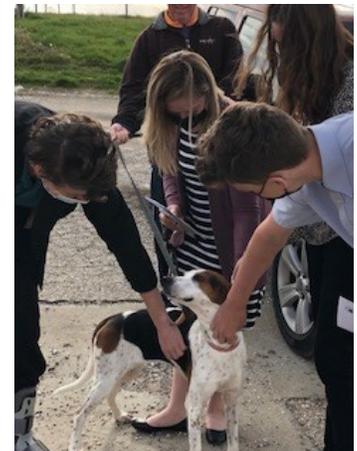


CEO Young Entrepreneurs Give Back Donation made to Humane Society of McDonough County

McDonough County - The five students currently enrolled in the McDonough County CEO Program for Entrepreneurship have learned everything they need to start a business, from developing business plans to securing insurance, creating marketing plans and organizing their finances. Equally important is learning how to operate a business within a community, while engaging with the community they serve.

In January, the Class of 2021 launched the "Winter Rush Delivery Service" an online Vendor Fair complete with a touchless home delivery option. The pop-up business was a great success but the students didn't just pocket their proceeds. One portion went back to the CEO program in support of next year's group of young entrepreneurs. A second portion went back to the Class of 2021 in the form of start-up grants for their new individual businesses. The rest, the students determined, would be given as a donation to an organization that represented their values and interests: The Humane Society of McDonough County.

On April 23, Jade Laverdiere (MHS '21), Devin Suggitt (B-PC '22), Gracie Murphy (MHS '21) and Bryce Lester (MHS '21) met Humane Society President Bonnie Smith-Skripps at the McDonough County Animal Shelter to present a check for \$425. They enthusiastically agreed to direct the donation to the New Shelter Building Fund.



Mazikeen Finds Her Forever Home and Family

Our foster dog, Mazikeen, has found her forever home. We thank Lars for his care of Mazi at Gossel's Doghouse, and for his patience and training which helped her become the self-confident, trusting, and loving girl that she now is. Mazi was with Lars for one week short of a year. Last spring we pulled her from the shelter as a frantic and scared dog and placed her with Lars. Mazi is now a member of Angie's family and seems to be pretty content and comfortable in her forever home with new human, canine, and feline friends.

Mazikeen was the fifth dog that Lars helped us with by providing foster care and training. We so appreciate his commitment to helping scared or out-of-control dogs find their "best self" by gaining the trust, self-confidence, and manners they so need.

