

FALL 2021

HSMCIL
P.O. Box 7
Macomb, IL 61455

HSMCIL.ORG

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Humane Society of McDonough County

Waggin' Tales



Greetings to Our Friends,

With COVID we've gained a greater appreciation of the benefits of fresh air, thus finding ways to share companionship and good times in the great outdoors. In September we enjoyed an incredible 7 hours of live music at the *Play It Forward* event held at the "back porch" venue of The Wine Sellers. Over \$2000 was raised for the New Animal Shelter Fund via the generosity of the local musicians who donated their tips and the participants who filled the tip jar. At the end of October we held *Bark in the Park* for the first time since 2011, this time in partnership with the Macomb Park District. With the help of great sponsorship and donations, we cleared over \$2100 for the New Animal Shelter Fund. Although it was a bit chilly, the dogs and their humans seemed to enjoy the Halloween party with its various events and contests. Pictures tell the story.

The 8th Annual Brix Challenge wrapped up earlier this month with \$18,543 raised to date to support HSMC core programs and initiatives such as low cost spay/neuter and finding homes for all adoptable shelter animals. Thanks to Chris Brix's ongoing support, this initiative solidifies our annual budget and enables us to continue to address ongoing issues related to homeless pets.

We recently rescued another dog from the animal shelter. Jennings was a very scared young boy, who was not able to let down his guard and relax in the shelter environment. Lars Gossel agreed (for what will be the sixth time) to provide a home for a HSMC foster dog. Jennings (now Hoff) is settling in to the Gossel Dog House routine and has made canine friends. He's still not sure of the need for a human connection, but he's watching and learning. We believe Lars' care and attention will win Hoff over, and help him transition into a loving pet ready to be in a forever home.

You will find evidence of the HSMC's efforts in several locations as we enter the holiday season. Christmas Trees decorated with pictures of McDonough County Animal Shelter dogs and cats and their wish lists are already up at Pet Supplies Plus and Farm King. Your gifts will make these homeless animals' holidays more festive. Bring your dogs and/or your kids to Dickens on the Square on Saturday, December 4th, between 10:00 and noon. Krista Skien Photography will be on the Courthouse lawn ready to take your holiday photos for \$10/each. Krista is donating the digital picture fee to the Humane Society. Rudy the Reindeer and few of us will be assisting Krista. Other Board members will be at Nelson's Clothing, wrapping presents on that same day, from 11:00-3:00, with John and Ian donating a percentage of sales to HSMC.

We will hold the annual reorganization vote on Board members and officers as part of our January Board meeting. The slate of proposed Board members is included in this newsletter. If you are interested in serving on the Board, please indicate your interest by notifying Kate Shattuck, at kshattuck@mac.com. We invite your attendance at the January 3rd meeting at the American Legion, Post 6. Regular meeting starts at 5:30 pm with the Annual Meeting starting at 6:00 pm.

Enjoy the holidays and please stay in touch,

Bonnie Smith-Skripps
HSMC President

THANK YOU for Another Fantastic Brix Challenge!

Saying “thank you” doesn’t come close to expressing the gratitude we feel for all of those who chose to be a part of the *Brix Challenge 2021*. For the 8th consecutive year Chris Brix has generously launched his efforts to raise funds for the HSMC’s annual operating costs by pledging \$1,000.00 and asking the community to join him by donating whatever amount they could between late September and the end of October. His hopes of growing his gift into one that is many times that amount has become a reality again with the support of this amazing community. Many of our members and friends, local media venues and businesses joined in the efforts to make the BC21 an exciting community event and a tremendous success for the HSMC and the animals whose lives will be touched by their generosity. Through mailings, posters, social media, publicity and word of mouth this year’s BC raised an amazing \$18,543.00 with which the HSMC will continue its ongoing work to help animals in need in McDonough County. The added commitment of the HSMC to raise money for a new (and much needed) county animal shelter is an enormous task in itself. But the everyday commitment of caring for animals in need doesn’t slow down or stop because of that additional task at hand. The funds raised through this year’s Brix Challenge will guarantee that the important ongoing programs of the HSMC will continue and expand. We are so thankful to Chris Brix and to everyone who chose to support this year’s Brix Challenge.

Dickens!



Dickens on the Square, Saturday, December 4th
Bring your dogs and/or family for a
Photo with Rudy the Reindeer, then shop at Nelson’s
where HSMC Board members will wrap your gifts,
all to support the HSMC!

Saturday, Dec. 4th, 10:00-Noon:

Krista Skien Photography will be set up on the Courthouse Lawn on to take your Christmas photos – with your dogs, and/or with your family. Rudy the Reindeer will ask if he can sit in. Digital photos will be \$10 each with proceeds going to HSMC.

After you get your holiday photo, saunter over to Nelson’s for some Christmas shopping and let the HSMC wrap your gifts.

Spread the Word! Make a Wish Trees at Farm King and Pet Supplies Plus Provide Joy to Homeless Dogs and Cats at the McDonough County Animal Shelter



Adoption Day for Diamond!



Elyse Strange, Head to Tail Grooming, wanted to help a shelter dog with skin and ear infections by donating her talent and medicated shampoo. That dog was Diamond, the dog Arnold Brothers chose to sponsor in October. Who knew what a special dog Diamond was, some would say a diamond in the rough. But every time Elyse bathed that dog, Diamond wiggled her way into Elyse's heart, until Elyse decided to make Diamond part of her pack and give her a forever home.

Happy 'Gotcha Day!'



Operation Generosity Donation



Julie and Calvin Lorenzen visited the shelter on November 14th so Calvin could present a check to the HSMC as part of the First Christian Church's Operation Generosity. This was the second Operation Generosity check we have received. We thank Calvin for his support and for his care for needy animals.

***Why are kittens actually excellent bosses?
They have great littership!***

Jennings (aka Hoff) – now has a foster home at Gossel's Dog House

Jennings came to the shelter in early September with his running buddy Waylon (both named by the shelter staff), after being trapped by a farmer. They were a very bonded pair and shared a shelter kennel. Waylon was adopted fairly soon, leaving Jennings on his own, sad and scared. Jennings was comfortable around the other shelter dogs, but remained skittish about leaving his kennel. Neither shelter staff nor volunteers had ever encountered such a "shut-down" dog. We all agreed that he would be better off with Lars in foster care, receiving more one-on-one attention, and having room to run, a bigger area in which to live, and dogs with whom he could be buddies. The HSMC rescued him as our foster dog at the end of October and he went to Gossel's Dog House. The pictures tell the story of his transition. Hopefully over the next few weeks we will see Jennings as a trusting, self-confident, and playful boy.



Bark in the Park 2021 Halloween Party at Veterans Park



- 64 dogs and their humans enjoyed the contests and activities
- WIU Art Dept printed bandanas with "Raise the Woof" logo for each dog registered
- Macomb High Art Teacher and students worked magic with face painting



Costumes & Events

Chance, the 3-legged pirate, won best costume.



Sponsors

Clugston-Tibbitts Funeral Home
Dodsworth-Piper-Wallen Funeral Home
Emmet Hall "The Driven Car Guy" at Kunes Auto
First Bankers Trust Company
State Farm Insurance/Derek Zahm Agency
United Community Bank
Woodrum Automotive

Donors

Pet Supplies Plus, Gossel's Dog House, Krista Skien Photography, Steve Silberer, Farm King, Your CBD Store, Head to Tail Grooming, Barrie McVey, All Pets Veterinary Clinic, Lin's Engraving, WIU Art Department, Royal Printing, Hy-Vee, Wal-Mart

Chief Jerel Jones welcomed everyone to the party. David & Jackie Thompson and Park Director, Rachel Lenz, served as contest judges.



- Three cakewalks were held with winners receiving a Steve Silberer cake or cup-cakes with dog faces on top by HyVee
- Make a dog pull toy was a huge hit
- Great photos were taken at the Krista Skein Photography booth



- Pet Supplies Plus held a carved pumpkin judging event
- K-9 Drug Sniffing and Attack demonstration
- WIU Baseball Team members helped with set-up and tear-down for the party
- Rocky led the parade



HSMC Board Members 2021

Bonnie Smith-Skripps – President
Bill Johnson – Vice President
Kate Shattuck – Secretary
Terri Hare – Treasurer
Sue Adams – Director
Linda Andrews – Director
Amy Betz – Director
JB Biernbaum – Director
Felix Chu – Director
Patti Douglas – Director
Max Kreps – Director
Dave Monninger – Director
Ann Stites – Director
Jennifer Tibbitts – Director

2022 HSMC Sponsored Transports

Spay/Neuter for McDonough County Cats - In keeping with our initiative to combat the cat overpopulation in McDonough County, the HSMC sponsors transports to the low cost spay/neuter clinic at the Quincy Humane Society at an expense to us of \$25 per cat. In 2021 the HSMC sponsored 10 transports, resulting in 204 cats being neutered and receiving distemper and rabies vaccines. Ten transports are scheduled for 2022.

Quincy Humane Society Low Cost Spay/Neuter Clinic 2022 Schedule

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 17th
- April 14th
- May 19th
- June 16th
- July 14th
- August 18th
- September 15th
- October 13th
- November 10th



Thank you, Sue Adams, HSMC Board member, for creating these buttons for Bark in the Park participants!



Address:

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.

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

**HSMC Annual Board Election
American Legion Macomb
Date: Monday, January 3, 2022
Time: 6 pm**

Per **Article IV, Section 7**, this is notification of the slate of positions along with current nominees. Nominees will be voted on at the Annual Board Election pursuant to **Article V, Section 3**. Pursuant to **Article V, Section 4**: The Members of the Board of Directors can consist of up to 15 members. *HSMC members are encouraged to participate in the operation of this organization. Please consider attending board meetings and donating your time and talents to the running of this organization.*

Director: Open to HSMC members interested in helping the animals of McDonough County by donating their time and talents to shaping the future of this organization. The purpose of this Society is the prevention of cruelty to animals, the relief of suffering among animals, and the extension of humane education.

Slate of Nominees for 2022

Article V, Section 2: Only HSMC Members are eligible for election as Directors. No individual shall derive monetary benefit of any kind from being a director. Currently there are 13 nominees.

Board Positions

Nominees to Date

| | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| Officer/President | Bonnie Smith-Skripps |
| Officer/Vice President | Bill Johnson |
| Officer/Treasurer | Terri Hare |
| Officer/Secretary | Kate Shattuck |
| Director | Sue Adams |
| Director | Amy Betz |
| Director | JB Biernbaum |
| Director | Felix Chu |
| Director | Patti Douglas |
| Director | Max Kreps |
| Director | Dave Monninger |
| Director | Ann Stites |
| Director | Jennifer Tibbitts |
| Director | Open |
| Director | Open |

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A dog walks into a job center. 'Wow, a talking dog,' says the clerk. 'With your talent I'm sure we can find you a gig in the circus.' 'The circus?' says the dog. 'What does a circus want with a plumber?'



Business Members

- All Pets Veterinary Clinic
- American Legion Post 6
- Animal Medical Center
- Bushnell Veterinary Service, PC
- Captured Moments Photography
- Clugston-Tibbitts Funeral Home
- Edward Jones
- Free Range Yoga
- Gossel's Dog House
- Green Shingle Graphics
- Hickory Kennels
- Matthew S. McClure, DMD-PC
- McDonough Power Cooperative
- MidAmerica National Bank Macomb
- Minus Muffler Garage and Towing
- No Place Like Home
- Pet Supplies Plus
- Purdum Gray Ingledue Beck, Inc.
- Royal Printing
- RWE Renewables
- Shady Lane Storage Facility
- Sweet Briar Corner Nursery
- The Community News Brief
- The McDonough County Voice
- The Wine Sellers
- Wesley Village
- West Side Lumber

Proud supporters of the HSMC!



“Play It Forward” at the Wine Sellers



Over \$2000 was raised for the New Animal Shelter Building Fund on September 11th via The Wine Sellers' Play It Forward musical extravaganza!

Thanks so much to Julia, Craig and Collin Burns and the participating musicians who made this happen.



Royal Printing, Macomb

An Honorary Business Membership was presented to Joy at Royal Printing for Royal's contributions of printing for the New Animal Shelter Building Campaign and Bark in the Park.





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Membership Form!

YES, I want to support the Humane Society of McDonough County's vision with my annual membership!
This is a new or renewing (circle one) membership!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

* If Family Membership, please list all names:

** If Pet Membership, please list pet's name:

Please mail completed application and payment to:



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Membership Levels Available:

-  Junior (under 18) \$5.00
-  Student or Senior \$10.00
-  Individual \$25.00
-  Family* \$35.00
-  Pet** \$5.00
-  Contributing \$50.00
-  Sustaining \$100.00
-  Supporting \$500.00
-  Lifetime \$1,000.00

Business Memberships Available:

-  Protector \$100.00
-  Guardian \$250.00
-  Defender \$500.00