

SPRING 2018

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Humane Society of McDonough County

# Waggin' Tales



**Dog Wash  
Is back!**

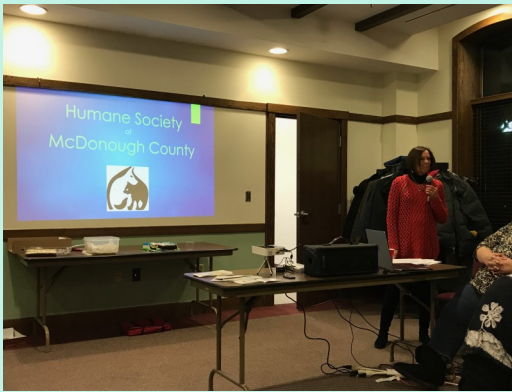
Does your pooch need a little spring cleaning?  
Save the date for the  
Humane Society of McDonough County dog wash!

**May 5, 2018**

10 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
Held at Woodrum Ford-Lincoln-Toyota  
3100 E. Jackson St.  
Macomb, IL



## HSMC Annual Dinner Has Great Turnout!



Approximately 40 friends and members of the HSMC attended the Annual Dinner meeting in January.

President Bonnie Smith-Skripps highlighted the 2017 year's activities and success stories during a Power-Point presentation, and Mayor Mike Inman was in attendance to speak a few words.

The HSMC Board is pleased to announce several new HSMC Executive Board members:

Sue Adams  
Felix Chu  
Patty Douglas  
Nicole Humbert



## Bushnell Goal Diggers 4H Club Food Drive



The Bushnell Goal Diggers 4H Club held another food drive for the HSMC and McDonough County Animal Shelter. Several hundred pounds of dog/cat food and cat litter were donated.

Thank  
you!

## Free Range Yoga

and Community Wellness Center



Thank you to Free Range Yoga staff and patrons for their ongoing fundraising efforts and donations to the HSMC. Their support in sponsoring adoptions at the shelter has helped pets find their forever home. Thank you for the food, litter, cleaning supplies and monetary donations to help the with recent influx of animals at the shelter.



## HEARTWORM DISEASE IN DOGS AND CATS

By: Karen Blakeley DVM, MPH  
All Pets Veterinary Clinic, Macomb, IL

Heartworms are a circulatory system parasite that is transmitted by mosquitoes. They primarily infect dogs but can infect cats as well. The Midwest, especially along the Mississippi River, is a hotbed of heartworm activity and we do have heartworm in our area. The adult heartworms live in the blood vessels of the heart and lungs and are not to be confused with intestinal parasites. Your pet will not poop out heartworms. In fact, you will never actually see the worms in an infected pet.

Heartworms have 5 larva stages, they are called L1, L2, L3, L4, and L5. The first stage, L1, lives in an infected dog. A mosquito will then pick up this stage and the larva will develop into a L2 larva and then a L3 larva. The L3 larva will then be able to leave the mosquito and enter back into another dog or cat when bitten. The L3 larva will molt into a L4 and then a L5 larva in the host. This L5 larva will then turn into an adult heartworm and will grow within the vasculature of the infected dog or cat. The adult worms will reproduce and give rise to more L1 larva that will be ready to be picked up by another mosquito.

The earliest stages of heartworm disease in dogs and cats are silent. Thus, your pet will have no clinical signs while the L3 larva is developing into an adult worm. This process can take 6-8 months. Once the adult worms have developed and are colonizing the pulmonary vasculature, signs can occur. The earliest signs of heartworm disease include exercise intolerance, breathing harder at rest, and decreased activity level. Since these signs are slow to occur, they may go undetected by an owner. Over time, as the disease progresses the pet may develop a slight cough. In the later stages heart failure occurs. Pets in heart failure can have fluid accumulation in the abdomen, chest, and possibly limbs, weight loss, lethargy, and weakness. If it is left untreated death will result.

Heartworms are 100% preventable. All pets in an endemic area should be periodically tested for heartworm and should stay on monthly heartworm preventative. It is important to remember that heartworm PREVENTION is not heartworm TREATMENT. The recommendations may vary slightly by region but for our area all puppies under 6 months of age should be started on prevention immediately. For puppies started on prevention when they are young, the first heartworm test will be conducted at approximately one year of age. For dogs that have not been on prevention, they should have an initial blood test before starting. Once on prevention, annual retesting should occur if you have ever missed, skipped, given doses more than 30 days apart, stopped and restarted, forgotten, or otherwise lapsed on once monthly administration. It may be permissible to check every other year if you are fully compliant with administration of heartworm medications every 30 days and give them year round. Again, since the earliest stages of disease are silent and significant damage has occurred by the time the pet has signs, periodic testing is important. It is not uncommon to find heartworms in dogs that have been on prevention but have had lapses.

*Continued on the next page*

If your pet gets adult heartworm, he/she will have to be treated. This is a lengthy and expensive process. Dogs with heartworm need to be started on a medicine called doxycycline. This will be given for one month prior to adult treatment and will kill Wolbachia, an organism that lives within the heartworm. This "parasite of the parasite" will cause complications when the adult heartworms die so we use the doxycycline to eliminate it first. During this one month period the pet needs to be staged. Bloodwork and xrays will be taken to determine how advanced the disease is and which protocol should be followed for full adult treatment. In less severe cases, two injections of Immiticide or Dironan will be given 24 hours apart. In severe cases, one injection will be given, followed by one month of rest and then a series of two injections for the adults given 24 hours apart. There will be a period of confinement and rest for 1 month after each injection and additional medications may need to be given during that time frame.

Again, heartworm disease is preventable. There are many products available. They are all highly effective at preventing disease if given properly so choice of product will often vary by your personal preference. There are several topical products (Revolution and Advantage Multi) and several oral products (Heartgard, Interceptor, Sentinel, Iverheart, Trifexis, etc.). Additionally, there is a twice a year injection (Proheart) that prevents heartworms for 6 months at a time. All of these products will kill other parasites so sometimes the decision on which is the best product will be determined by what other parasites your pet is at risk for.

A special note on cats. Cats are considered an accidental host for heartworms. Heartworms are best suited to live and thrive in dogs but will infect cat in endemic areas. Testing may be inconclusive since cats will often have lower numbers of worms. Signs in a cat include coughing, wheezing, lethargy, weight loss, vomiting that is unassociated with eating, and sudden death. The standard adult treatments for dogs can have serious side effects in cats including death so prevention in a cat is even more important. The most common heartworm preventatives for use in cats include Revolution and Advantage Multi (topicals) and Heartgard (oral).

**\*\*The information provided here is for educational purposes only and is not intended to take the place of a veterinarian. As always, if you have any questions regarding the health of your pet, please consult a qualified veterinarian.\*\***

**April brings more than showers. It's also:**

- **National Heartworm Awareness Month**
- **Pet First Aid Awareness Month**
- **Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Month**



# *In Memorium*



Our HSMC programs are funded 100% by donations, but it's always a somber time when donations are the result of someone's passing. We appreciate the friends and families who choose to honor someone by supporting the Humane Society of McDonough County.

Donations were received in 2017 in memory of:

*A. Gil Belles*  
*Michael Creek*  
*Laura Sadler Cripe*  
*Gertie Dace*  
*Robert "Fear" Fosdych*  
*Jeannie Hamilton*  
*Arlene Harhen*  
*Joyce Hendrickson*  
*Larry Jameson*  
*Kathy Jeffries*  
*Mary McKamy*  
*Brodie (Merritts' dog)*  
*Anne Mueller*  
*Rene and John Raatjes*  
*Edie Selders*  
*Rhonda Semonis*  
*Jeron Thomson*  
*Doris Tucker*  
*Carolyn VanOrder*  
*C. Don Weston*



## MCDONOUGH COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER

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

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.

Animal Control Officers:  
Kelsey Havens  
Bonnie Billhmer  
Amber Ellis  
Email: [mcas@macomb.com](mailto:mcas@macomb.com)



### 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



Patti Pasquesi-Nemec, Shelley Kreps, and Karen Ingeldue answered a call. At a recent HSMC board meeting Patti shared the pet blankets she created. When told of the need for blankets at the shelter for the felines, Patti, Shelley, and Karen made and donated blankets to provide a soft, cuddly environment for the kitties at the shelter.

Thank you, Patti, Shelley, and Karen We're sure the kitties find the blankets puuuurfect!

# Provided Relief

Using HSMC funds designated for shelter improvement, a storage unit was recently installed to provide a dry, critter-proof storage space for food at the McDonough County Animal Shelter. The shed also opens additional space inside the shelter. Shelter staff and HSMC board members are looking at best utilization of space to highlight the animals at the shelter. The HSMC is looking into ways to improve the cat room environment for both cats and potential adopters.



The shelter has received an amazing amount of donations in response to the large number of dogs, puppies, and cats who were legally seized from a property this past February. The Macomb Women's Club sponsored a donation drive, and individuals brought supplies and monetary support on an almost daily basis after the acquisition of the animals. The HSMC thanks the community for its proactive response in providing extra assistance to the shelter for daily supplies and medical support for the animals.



## Business Members

All Pets Veterinary Clinic  
Animal Medical Center  
Black Nugget, LLC  
Bushnell Veterinary Service, PC  
Captured Moments Photography  
Clugston-Tibbitts Funeral Home  
Dad's Place  
Free Range Yoga  
Green Shingle Graphics  
Hickory Kennels  
Matthew S. McClure, DMD-PC  
McDonough County Voice  
MidAmerica National Bank  
Minus Muffler  
No Place Like Home  
Purdum Gray Ingledue Beck  
Sodexo  
Sweet Briar Corner Nursery  
Wesley Village  
The Wine Sellers



**Proud supporters  
of the HSMC!**



***Wine, Whiskers and Whimsy*** is scheduled for  
**Saturday, June 9, 2018!**

The WWW committee is working hard to plan a fun evening with entertainment, food, and silent auction.  
Look for some changes this year!

## ***Your 2018 HSMC Board:***

President: Bonnie Smith-Skripps  
Vice President: Bill Johnson  
Secretary: Cecilia Benelli  
Treasurer: Terri Hare  
Membership Chair: Kate Shattuck  
Education Chair: Amy Betz  
County Shelter Project Manager: Max Kreps  
Pet Food Pantry Manger: Dave Monninger  
Board Member: Kathy Chambers  
Board Member: Linda Andrews  
Board Member: JB Biernbaum  
Board Member: Sue Adams  
Board Member: Felix Chu  
Board Member: Patty Douglas  
Board Member: Nicole Humbert



## Personal Ad

### Ad Paid for by the HSMC

**100% OFF**

My name is Abbey, and I'm searching for my furever home.

I like cuddling and long talks. I will love your family unconditionally.

If you're the one I'm looking for, contact the McDonough County Animal Shelter

A generous donor has offered to pay my full adoption fee for you!!

**Contact the shelter**



**mcas**

Expiration  
Date:

Not sure