

## humane society of pulaski county

14600 Colonel Glenn Road, Little Rock, AR 72210 (501)227-6166 www.warmhearts.org













#### THE PANDEMIC ISSUE

#### **SPRING/SUMMER 2020**

Dear Humane Society Supporter,

As I watch the lovely "Warm Puppy" irises bloom in front of our shelter, I am reminded that life and hope is still in our future. Though our shelter is open by special appointment only in order to protect



our animal caregivers from COVID-19, your amazing support and flexibility enables us to move forward with our rescue efforts.

Because you donated precious dollars, we were able to provide care to many including Anastasia who will receive a special surgery to restore her vision.

Because you gave needed items for the animals in our shelter, we were able to save money on essential goods.

Because you fostered, animals have a better life outside the stress of a shelter. Because you opened your homes and adopted, we were able to rescue more!

Thank you for remembering us during such an uncertain time. We wish you health and happiness.

On Behalf of the HSPC Board of Directors. Debbie Howell **Board President** 





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THIS	Keeping	
ISSUE:	The	Faith

#### Keeping The Faith And Maintaining Our Mission!







The needs of homeless, abused and injured animals do not cease during a global pandemic. HSPC has been in communication with rescue organizations all over this country to share ideas on moving on with our life-saving missions. One thing we all agree on is that our work is essential! So we have devised creative ways to keep our staff safe while continuing to do intake and adoptions. We are prescreening adoption applications online and calling adopters in for appointments. Our kennels are closed to visitors and most meetings with potential adopters happen in our dog park. Intake is also done through appointment only working from our waitlist from the public while helping municipal shelters take a load off. Meanwhile daily shelter operations continue with entering data, cleaning, feeding, examining, medicating, socializing, walking, exercising, playing, brushing, cleaning and *loving* the ones the Universe has given us.





Day 6 of quarantine: My cat is still trying to figure out why I'm in his house after 8 am.

Now I know why dogs get so excited to go for walks!

#### Sharing The Joy And Comfort Your Pets Provide



KIWI 1st Place VIOLET 2nd Place

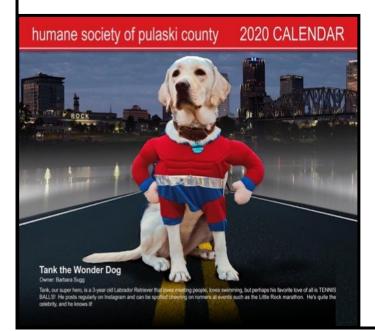
MATTIE 3rd Place

ANGEL 4th Place

In April, HSPC ran an **Arkansas Quarantine Cuties** photo contest to try to bring some fun to an otherwise tough time. Winners received their choice of gift cards, all donated by members of the HSPC Board. We are so thankful to the people who shared their wonderful animals and their stories, as well as all the voters. All proceeds benefited HSPC.

Congratulations to our winners!

## Here's Another Chance To Show Off Your Adorable Arkansas Pet



Get ready for our second **PHOTO CONTEST AND WALL CALENDAR!** Last year was a wonderful success, so we are looking forward to doing it again.

Beginning June 1, you can enter your pet in the HSPC photo contest. Entries will be voted on online and the top vote-getter will be featured on the cover of our 2021 calendar. Places 2 - 13 will be featured on a month. Places 14 - 25 will be on the back cover. All entrants will appear somewhere in the calendar. It's a wonderful opportunity to share all your pets and support HSPC.

Be sure to follow our Facebook page and warmhearts.org to get updates!

#### Adopting Is Good For Your Health!



Right now all over the world, people are concerned about their health. As we wait for a cure and a vaccine, there is one simple thing we can do for our health — **ADOPT A PET!** 

Studies have shown that having a pet can extend life and improve overall happiness and health. It also helps people with depression, stress, anxiety and many other serious conditions such as PTSD and addiction. Petting your dog or cat can reduce your blood pressure and stress levels, and playing with them can increase the levels of serotonin your body produces, helping you feel calm and relaxed. Walking your dog is a great way to exercise! In addition to strengthening bones, posture, heart

health and more, it provides sufferers of anxiety, depression and boredom with a reason to leave the house.

Here at HSPC we know that there is nothing better than a rescue! The animal you have helped through rehoming is a companion that will never judge you and will love you unconditionally regardless of whatever happens. It is said that animals know when they have been rescued, so the bond between you will be especially strong. The best part of all is that no social distancing is required!

#### Making Adoptions Affordable During The COVID-19 Pandemic

There is no way better to spend your time away from society than with a new pet. Extra time presents a great opportunity for training, socializing and bonding. Though our shelter was

closed to the public, we wanted to create an opportunity for adoptions to continue through preapproved applications and scheduled appointments with an adoption counselor. HSPC was also sensitive to the fact that many perspective pet owners would be experiencing a loss of income. We decided to reduce our adoption fees for a while by 75% and seek grants or sponsorships to cover for part of our financial loss. **Bissell Pet Foundation** stepped up to do two sponsored adoption events in April and May. We were able to move an exceptional number of animals during this time. Many of those had been with us a long time or were senior pets.



11-Year-Old Buddy Goes Home!

### **Continuing To Place Shelter Animals In Great Homes!**









"I have found that when you are deeply troubled, there are things you get from the silent









devoted companionship of a dog that you can get from no other source." ~ Doris Day









"There are two means of refuge from the misery of life — music and cats."









~ Albert Schweitzer



# ♥ ♥ Spotlight on Warm Hearts ♥ ♥ HSPC Volunteers Extraordinaire

We are hearing a lot about essential workers, but volunteers can also be essential to the operations of an animal shelter during a human crisis. In order to limit the number of individuals in our kennels, we have approved a few long-term loyal volunteers to work in-shelter with our dogs and cats. Their job is to socialize, train and exercise.

One of those volunteers is **Randal Hunhoff**. Randal is at the shelter for a few hours almost every day working with dogs in our dog park. Some lucky ones are even treated to car rides and nature hikes. The animals know him well and look forward to his visits. Randal has also helped with our adoptions by appointment. His efforts were exceptional placing some long-term, over-looked great dogs in their forever homes at last. He shows up clean and goes home looking like a poster child for laundry detergent!

**Betty Watts** and **Ann Jones** are always up to something when it comes to helping HSPC! Because things are slow right now at the Midtown Vintage Market booths they manage, they found something else to keep them busy. No, they did not start robbing banks! When protective face masks were in



Randal Hunhoff with Chewbacca

short supply and our staff really needed to wear them, these ladies did their research and started sewing these reusable masks. It didn't take long for volunteers and friends to notice and start requesting them for themselves. So Ann and Betty started a fundraiser for HSPC! They are now creating masks on request at a price of \$5.00 per person. What a bargain! They have currently made about 70 masks. Great job, ladies!



Betty Watts



Ann Jones

This newsletter was created with love by Debbie Howell (Board President), Sharon Morris (Board Vice President), and Julie Austin (Development Director).

**SPECIAL NOTICE** 

Memorials & Honorariums are now listed on the HSPC website at: <a href="https://www.warmhearts.org/thankyou">warmhearts.org/thankyou</a>

#### **Coming Back Soon!**

Though our shelter continues to rescue and adopt, sadly other programs have shut down until further notice. These include public gatherings like visits to schools, parades, festivals and offsite adoption events. Perhaps the biggest disappointment is for our **Puppy Love Team**, led by Dee Sadler. This amazing group with their pups has formed a bond with many residents in retirement facilities in our area. We know they have experienced tragedy because of the loss of some of the individuals their work has touched. We salute the Puppy Love Team for their commitment and send out our thoughts of hope to the residents of the following:

Allay Health & Rehab ★ Briarwood Nursing & Rehab
Colonel Glenn Health & Rehab ★ Cottage Lane Health & Rehab
Memory Care of Little Rock ★ Presbyterian Village
The Green House Cottages of Poplar Grove ★ The Waters of Cumberland

We will see you soon!







#### **Our Shelter Wish List**

#### **Purina Chow Brand Food:**

Dog Chow - Green Bag Puppy Chow - Blue Bag Cat Chow - Blue Bag Kitten Chow - Yellow Bag Kong & Interactive Toys Chew Toys (No Rope Toys) Stuffed Toys (No Beads) Leashes - Clip or Slip
Collars - Dog & Cat all sizes
Hand Sanitizer
White Copy Paper
Zipper Bags all sizes
Bath Towels & Blankets
(new or used)
Odo Ban from Sam's Club

Batteries all sizes
Plastic Storage Containers
Cat Grass Seed
Milk-Bone Original Dog Treats (plain only),
sizes mini, puppy, small and medium
Tractor Supply Company Brand Equine Fresh
Pine Pellet Stall Bedding (used in litter boxes)
Monetary donations are always welcome!

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How we are funded: Our support comes from memberships, donations, fundraisers, and bequests. We receive no city, county or state funds - nor are we affiliated with any national animal organizations.

# "Happiness is a warm puppy." ~ Charles M. Schulz



"Warm Puppy" is the variety of irises blooming at the front of the HSPC shelter.

These beautiful flowers were planted many years ago by **Phyllis Newton**, who served on the HSPC Board of Directors for over 16 years.