

# Warm hearts

for cold noses

## humane society of pulaski county

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



### THE "LIFE" ISSUE

### SPRING/SUMMER 2026

Dear Humane Society Friend:

As an animal lover, we know you agree that the bonds we form with our pets are like no other. This issue of our newsletter is dedicated to the experiences, challenges and joys we share with our pets, and was inspired by Julia and her adopted dog **George**.



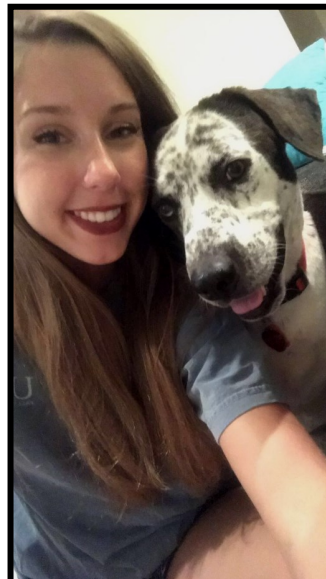
**George (outlined by red heart) on  
Rescue Day**

We rescued George and many others from an abandoned property in 2016. He never knew the kindness of humans until he came to our shelter, but his life as a pet began when he met Julia two years later. Please see page 2 for their heartwarming story.

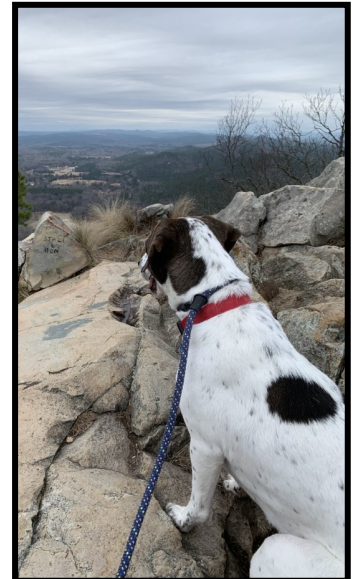
On Behalf of the Board of Directors,  
Hug your pets for us today!  
*Debbie Howell*  
HSPC Board President



**“Until one has loved an animal,  
a part of one’s soul remains  
unawakened.”**  
~ Anatole France



**George with Julia**

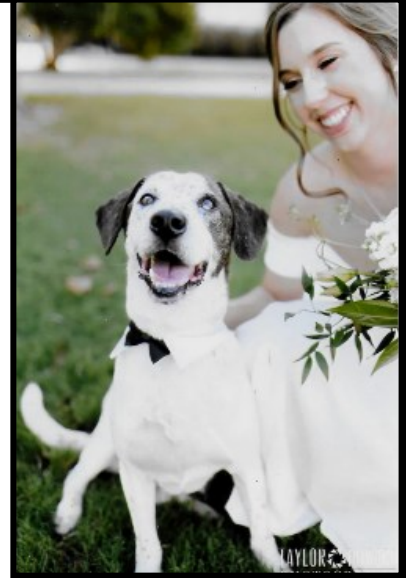


**George on top of  
Pinnacle Mountain**

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:	The Story Of George & Julia	Shelter Wish List	Responsible Pet Ownership	Spotlight On Warm Hearts	The Rescue Of Blair & Breezy	A Missing Pet: What To Do	Coping With Grief	8th Annual Pet Photo Contest	35th Annual Reigning Cats & Dogs
	2	2	3	3	4	5	6	7	7

## The Story Of George And Julia

"I adopted **George** from HSPC in 2018. After 7 wonderful years, he went to dog heaven. I tell you this because without y'all, the life we spent together wouldn't have been possible. We lived a very full life together. Not only did he climb mountains, he became an international traveler when we went to Canada. He became part of my family, and he even gained a dad in 2022.



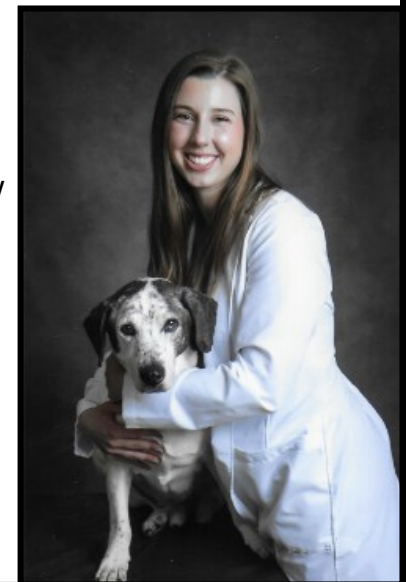
In the years following his adoption, his personality bloomed. He slowly began to trust people, and so many of my friends and family loved him. He was such a wonderful pet.



He is my "why" for completing Vet School. Because of George, I have a passion for taking care of sweet shelter babies. It is amazing how such creatures can touch our lives. Thank you to everyone who took care of George and

didn't give up on him so that he could find his forever family. The work you do is so important."

God Bless,  
Julia Bush-Moore



## Our Shelter Wish List

<b>Purina Chow Brand Food:</b>	Leashes - Clip or Slip	Batteries all sizes
Dog Chow - Green Bag	Collars - Dog & Cat all sizes	Plastic Storage Containers
Puppy Chow - Blue Bag	Hand Sanitizer	Cat Grass Seed
Cat Chow - Blue Bag	White Copy Paper	Milk-Bone Original Dog Treats (plain only),
Kitten Chow - Yellow Bag	Zipper Bags all sizes	sizes mini, puppy, small and medium
Kong & Interactive Toys	Bath Towels & Blankets	Tractor Supply Company Brand Equine Fresh
Chew Toys (No Rope Toys)	(new or used)	Pine Pellet Stall Bedding (used in litter boxes)
Stuffed Toys (No Beads)	Odo Ban from Sam's Club	<b>Monetary donations are always welcome!</b>

**Amazon Wish List:** Please go to [warmhearts.org/wish-list](https://www.warmhearts.org/wish-list) and click on "Amazon Wish List"

**Special Note:** We are no longer accepting items for resale. We do accept items for pets and other new items in the original packaging for our online auctions.

## Celebrating Responsible Pet Ownership

Congratulations on adopting a new pet! Regardless of where you obtained your pet, or even if it isn't your first pet, responsible pet ownership includes all of the following:

- ✓ **Prioritize Preventive Healthcare**
- ✓ **Provide Proper Nutrition and Exercise**
- ✓ **Invest in Training and Socialization**
- ✓ **Create a Safe Home Environment**
- ✓ **Practice Regular Grooming**
- ✓ **Plan for Emergencies**
- ✓ **Engage in Mental Stimulation**



Wynter



Crystal

To learn more: [guardianveterinaryspecialists.com/celebrating-responsible-pet-ownership](https://guardianveterinaryspecialists.com/celebrating-responsible-pet-ownership)



### ♥ ♥ Spotlight On Warm Hearts ♥ ♥ Robert Ward Maggie Mae

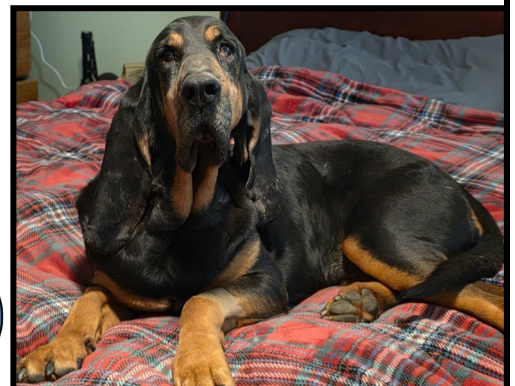


Our Spotlight on Warm Hearts goes to **Robert Ward**, our manager of Maintenance and Procurement. As our aging building is in its 26th year, we continue to experience the need for repairs and upgrades in equipment. Robert has been our constant for many years. Originally a volunteer, Robert has always had a passion for our mission as well as a knowledge for repairing many things and knowing who to contact when needs arise beyond his expertise.

Though he only works for the shelter two days a week, he is usually the first person every day to show up at our facility, unlocking doors and checking on all of our animals to make sure they are safe and showing no signs of harm. He reports concerns immediately to our veterinary staff and manager on duty. He also orders and picks up supplies for our shelter as well as donations to be used mainly in our support program for other nonprofit shelters and rescues. If Robert charged us for all he does, we would be out

of business. Thank goodness his life is devoted to our animals and the longevity of the shelter and our mission!

Also sharing the spotlight is a Bloodhound named **Maggie Mae** who is owned by our veterinarian, Dr. Teresa Medlock-Pratt. Maggie Mae has been a blood donor for many others needing a transfusion at Arkansas Veterinary Emergency & Specialists (AVES). Her life-saving donations have saved nearly a dozen dogs so far. For Maggie Mae, trips to the AVES clinic are rewarding adventures because she gets showered with treats and belly rubs by the grateful staff!



## Finding A Lost Pet—The Heroic Rescue Of Blair And Breezy

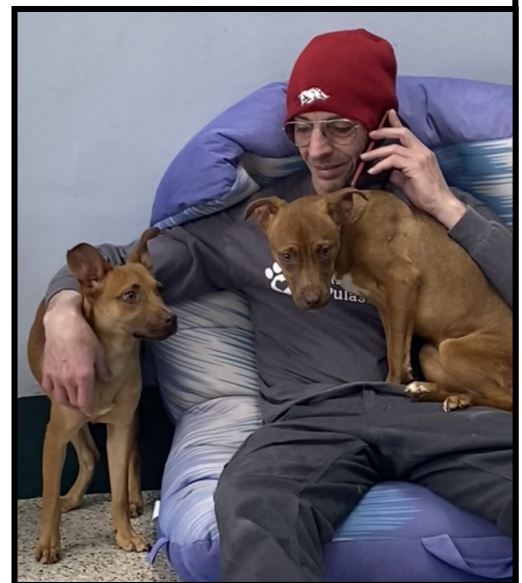
Just as people build strong bonds among each other, so can animals. **Blair** and **Breezy** were two sibling pups that were surrendered to our shelter from a situation where they were never treated as pets and had to depend on each other for comfort. Even after arriving at our shelter, for weeks they huddled together at the back of their kennel fearing human contact.

Linda and Craig, two great volunteers and fosters, decided to take them home to socialize them. Things were going well until a loud noise startled one of the pups who climbed the fence and escaped, and the other was not far behind. Both were running in a cloud of fear and confusion. They reverted to the idea that they only had each other. The rescue efforts led by Heath Nicholson (HSPC Volunteer Coordinator) along with the fosters included the use of a drone to locate the pups in a heavily wooded area and the advice and expertise of Preston Noland, a well-known local trapper and rescuer. This went on for several days in frigid temperatures.



After days of setting traps, baiting them with cat food and cheeseburgers, there was a break. In her hungry and weakened state, Blair entered a trap and before she knew it was caught. While she ate ferociously, her friend Breezy came around out of curiosity. Another trap had been set next to the one holding Blair. Within minutes, Breezy entered the second trap and was saved as well! The dogs were transported back to the shelter where they slept in warm beds for the first time in over a week. HSPC is grateful to all the heroes involved in this rescue led by our own Heath Nicholson.

***Rescues like this are made possible by the generous contributions of our supporters. Thank you!***



**Blair & Breezy with Heath**



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

## What To Do If A Pet Goes Missing

First and foremost, keep in mind the wise adage by Benjamin Franklin: "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

Ways to keep your pets safe:

- 1) Make sure they are microchipped and are wearing a collar with ID tags
- 2) Purchase and use a GPS dog collar that tracks their location
- 3) Perform routine inspections of all fencing
- 4) Address digging and jumping immediately
- 5) Always keep cats indoors



If your pet does go missing, act fast! Don't waste days hoping your pet will come home on their own. The sooner you begin your search, the better the odds of finding them. Take the following steps to help bring your pet home to safety:

- Search your neighborhood or the area where your pet was lost and let people know you have a missing pet.
- Call your pet's name and check any places where they could have become trapped such as in basements or garages or under vehicles. A lost pet often will hide during the day, so be sure to go out again at night with a flashlight and call for them.
- Sometimes a can of food can lure a hungry and scared pet to you.
- Check with your local shelters every day. Don't just call—also visit the shelters to search for your pet. Many animals are difficult to describe over the phone, and only you really know what your pet looks like.
- Call all animal control agencies in your town and surrounding areas. Animal control officers often work through the police department and pick up stray animals. Call them or check their shelters at least every two days.
- Utilize local neighborhood groups—and local Lost and Found Pet groups—on Facebook and Nextdoor.
- Use your pet's photo to make "Lost Pet" signs. Put them up in your neighborhood and in post offices, libraries, pet supply stores, veterinary offices and grocery stores. Inform your veterinarian and groomer that your pet is missing in case they receive a call.
- Place ads in local newspapers or newsletters.
- Watch the found ads. Respond to any that might be close to your pet's description. A week of wandering the streets can make white pets look drab gray, and the ad's description might not exactly fit.
- Visit the websites of national locator services such as [petfinder.com](https://www.petfinder.com)

Source: [americanhumane.org/public-education/what-to-if-youve-lost-your-pet](https://www.americanhumane.org/public-education/what-to-if-youve-lost-your-pet)

Special Note: Be sure to also post your missing pet to the following Facebook group:



**Arkansas Lost and Found Pet Network**

Animals & Pets · 91K followers

### MISSING CAT



**Petunia - Last seen May 15th**

Three years old female, grey with white paws and a white chest. Wears a pink collar with a bell, has a small scar on her left ear

For any information call Anthony

**+0 000 000 000**

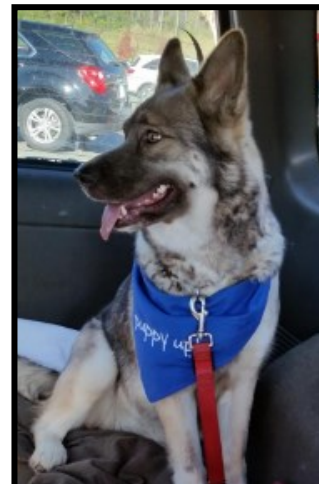
## Cheyenne's Story

***"Having a dog will bless you with many of the happiest days of your life, and one of the worst."***

~ **Unknown**

My husband and I adopted **Cheyenne** in 2014 from a municipal animal shelter. She came to us heartworm positive and with stump pyometra (a bacterial infection of the remnant uterine horn after spaying). We did DNA testing and were thrilled to learn she was German Shepherd/Husky/Alaskan Malamute. In her senior years, she developed a severe corneal ulcer, but her sight was saved by a conjunctival graft surgery. She was also affected by hip dysplasia and osteoarthritis, which we treated with several medications and supplements. Eventually the time came when she could no longer stand on her own and we said goodbye in December 2025. She was 13 years old and weighed 90 pounds. Cheyenne had a great life with us and knowing that we did all we could to not only extend her life, but to increase its quality, made it easier to say goodbye. On her last day, I gave her a sponge bath and a massage at home. We left for the vet's office with plenty of extra time to just love on her in our vehicle before going inside. Our final gift (and responsibility) was to stay with her and comfort her during the euthanasia. Even though we faced several medical challenges in Cheyenne's life, we wouldn't have traded her for any other dog. She was a gentle soul and so very precious to us. When it snowed here at the end of January, we reminisced about how much she loved to run in the snow in her younger years—a memory filled with both great joy and great sadness.

~ Sharon Morris, HSPC Volunteer and Board Member



For over 2 years, Cheyenne received monthly injections of **Librela** for her osteoarthritis. Those injections greatly improved her quality of life. But Librela must be administered by a veterinarian, and it became increasingly difficult for us to get Cheyenne into our vehicle and to the vet's office. The dog harness linked below allowed both my husband and me to easily lift half of her body weight. I highly recommend it.

**Help 'Em Up Harness:** [helpemup.com](http://helpemup.com)

## Coping With The Grief Of Pet Loss

A beloved pet brings companionship, fun, and joy to our lives, adds structure to our day, keeps us active and social, helps us overcome setbacks and challenges in life, and even provides a sense of meaning or purpose. So, when a cherished pet dies, it's normal to feel devastated. These tips can help you cope with the pain of pet loss:

- ♥ **Don't let anyone tell you how to feel.** Your grief is your own, and no one else can tell you when it's time to "move on" or "get over it". Let yourself feel whatever you feel without embarrassment or judgment. It's okay to be angry, to cry or not to cry. It's also okay to laugh and to find moments of joy.
- ♥ **Reach out to others who have lost pets.** If your own friends and family members are not sympathetic about pet loss, find someone who is. Check out online message boards, pet loss hotlines, and pet loss support groups.
- ♥ **Rituals can help healing.** A funeral can help you and your family members openly express your feelings. Ignore people who think it's inappropriate to hold a funeral for a pet and do what feels right for you.
- ♥ **Create a legacy.** Preparing a memorial, planting a tree in memory of your pet, compiling a photo album or scrapbook, or otherwise sharing the memories you enjoyed with your pet can create a legacy to celebrate the life of your animal companion.
- ♥ **Look after yourself.** The stress of losing a pet can quickly deplete your energy and emotional reserves. Looking after your physical and emotional needs will help you get through this difficult time. Spend time face to face with people who care about you, eat a healthy diet, get plenty of sleep, and exercise regularly to release endorphins that will help boost your mood.
- ♥ **If you have other pets, try to maintain your normal routine.** Surviving pets can also experience loss when a pet dies, or they may become distressed by your sorrow. Maintaining their daily routines, or even increasing exercise and play times, will not only benefit the surviving pets but can also help to elevate your mood and outlook too.
- ♥ **Seek professional help if you need it.** If your grief is persistent and interferes with your ability to function, your doctor or a mental health professional can help.

Source: [helpguide.org/mental-health/grief/coping-with-losing-a-pet](http://helpguide.org/mental-health/grief/coping-with-losing-a-pet)

# ADORABLE ARKANSAS PETS PHOTO CONTEST

MAY 1 - JUNE 13, 2026

GOGOPHOTOCONTEST.COM/HSPC



Get ready for our 8th Adorable Arkansas Pets PHOTO CONTEST at [gogophotocontest.com/hspc](http://gogophotocontest.com/hspc)! Beginning May 1st, you can enter your pet and begin voting. The 13 photos with the most votes will be seen on the cover and as monthly featured pets in our 2027 wall calendar. There will also be other options for ensuring your favorite pets are included.

Be sure to follow our Facebook page and [warmhearts.org](http://warmhearts.org) to get updates

Contest runs May 1 - June 13.

## November 7, 2026

### 35th Annual Reigning Cats & Dogs: Into The 80's, Don't Stop Believing!

Next Level Events  
Historic Union Train  
Station

We are currently looking  
for event sponsors and  
new auction item  
donations or services.

Please contact:  
[debbie@warmhearts.org](mailto:debbie@warmhearts.org)



Mark your calendars for our 35th Reigning Cats & Dogs! You do not want to miss this totally tubular event. The fun will happen on November 7.

Keep an eye on our Facebook Page and [warmhearts.org](http://warmhearts.org) for upcoming details.



DON'T STOP BELIEVING!

# HUMANE SOCIETY of PULASKI COUNTY™



Warm Hearts for Cold Noses

14600 Colonel Glenn Road  
Little Rock, AR 72210  
501-227-6166

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.

***“Not the least hard thing to bear when they go from us, these quiet friends, is that they carry away with them so many years of our own lives.”***  
***~ John Galsworthy***

**IN MEMORY OF  
GEORGE BUSH  
OUR SWEET PORGE**

**IN MEMORY OF  
GEORGE, A RESCUE  
THAT INSPIRED US!**

## ***George’s Memorial Bricks in the HSPC Legacy Sidewalk***

Read George’s heartwarming story on Pages 1 and 2 of this newsletter.

If you would like to donate to HSPC In Memory or In Honor of a cherished pet, please visit:

[warmhearts.org/brick](http://warmhearts.org/brick)

or

[warmhearts.org/memorial-gifts](http://warmhearts.org/memorial-gifts)