

From the board of directors:

A big THANK YOU to all of our supporters during the last difficult months. The robbery that took place at the Animal Shelter in May was on TV stations' news in Knoxville the next day. As a result, it brought forth an outpouring of concern and donations from near and far, even from out of state! Damage and theft amounted to several thousand dollars. The response was overwhelming. Almost before we knew it the items stolen were replaced and money was donated to make up for the theft. Though we were saddened that anyone would break into and steal from an Animal Shelter we were touched by the support of everyone who heard of our plight.

Some of the notes that came with donations were of special interest:

1. "Would like to send more but we are elderly on a limited income and save animals ourselves."
2. " The story on WBJR just broke my heart! My husband and I don't have any children and our 3 cats and our 11 year old collie are our lives. We feel so bad that someone would take away from all you are doing to protect the precious cats and dogs in your care. Bless you!"
3. "I heard the news on TV and sure am sorry. You all were getting along so well. I hope they catch the thief and give him the works. Use this small donation for what you need the most. Wish I could send more."
4. "Thanks for taking care of animals!"
5. "I was so saddened and furious to hear of your situation. Please use this wherever it is needed most. I sent your story to rescue groups in Blount, Loudon, Knox, and Roane Counties. I hope you see an outpouring of love and support. You are in our prayers as you struggle through this difficult time."
6. "Sorry it can't be more. God bless you for your work and God bless the animals."
7. "We saw the break-in story on the news. How sad for the Shelter and the animals. Good luck there and in apprehending the low-lives who took your money and safe."

Thank you everyone for your interest, concern, and donations. We appreciate you all very much!

And now it is August. There have been lots of changes at the shelter over the last months. And more changes still to come. We learned our lesson about theft and have installed an alarm system. In addition, the facility has had to upgrade its' electrical wiring to comply with state law. It was a big job but the shelter is a safer place as a result and we no longer have to worry about overloaded circuits. And as we go into winter we expect to have a new heating system that utilizes natural gas. This will be a cost saver since natural gas is less expensive than propane.

And we have made real progress redoing our water system after finding a serious leak. So the last months have seen big repairs but the shelter is safer and more hospitable as a result.

We take in a wide variety of animals!

We don't just take in dogs and cats. Less common arrivals that we have received and were able to help included: "Corky" a pot bellied pig found "running at large" and brought in by good Samaritans; "Polly" a Monk parrot caught "flying at large" at Perkins; another bird, "Bella", an Indian ring necked parrot, was surrendered to us; we even had a flock of chickens, a duck and rabbits brought in by animal control. Unusual those these intakes were, all have found good homes. Variety keeps things interesting at our shelter.

Horses

Think of us if you are interested in adopting a horse. We usually have a few available. Some might be suitable for riding; some might just be the perfect pasture companion for a horse you already own. When this newsletter was printed we had 4 horses available for adoption: the four included a 3 year old paint gelding, a 2 year old cremello mare, a 14 year old standardbred and an 8 year old thoroughbred mare. If you are interested in any of these horses call Justin Levi at 865-382-3890 or email Justin at: jalevi96@yahoo.com .

Happy tails

We at the shelter were cheered when "Gracie" a sweet Saint Bernard started off to her new home in Connecticut. Brought in by good Samaritans "Gracie" had turned out to be microchipped. Unfortunately all we were able to find out was that she'd be given away more than a year ago. Sadly, no one showed up to claim her BUT what a great ending when rescue took her in spite of her testing heartworm positive.

Diego, A 10 year old mustang mare, was adopted to an older man in our big adoption event of June 2009. Unfortunately, the gentleman developed health issues and was unable to keep the mare. As specified in our adoption contract she was returned to us. At about the same time one of our other adopters was forced to euthanize Mary Doll, a thoroughbred she'd adopted from us, when she could no longer keep her pain free. This left her older Arabian gelding alone and lonely. And now the happy ending: Diego has a forever home as a companion to a lonely Arabian. Thank you to Diego's adopter.

Lily, a kitten, was brought in bleeding badly from a damaged lip. Lily was about out of options when she was treated by a local veterinarian. Lily is now being cared for in a foster home and you can no longer tell she was injured. Lily is now available for adoption.

And Now A Note On Your Pet's

General Good Health

A healthy pet is a happy companion. Your pet's daily well-being requires regular care and close attention to any hint of ill health. The American Veterinary Medical Association suggests that you consult your veterinarian if your pet shows any of the following signs:

- Lumps or swelling
- Reduced or excessive appetite or water intake
- Marked weight loss or gain
- Limping, stiffness, or difficulty getting up or down
- Difficult, discolored, excessive or uncontrolled waste elimination (urine and feces)
- Abnormal discharges from any body opening
- Head shaking, scratching, licking, or coat irregularities
- Changes in behavior or fatigue
- Foul breath or excessive tartar deposits on teeth

HEARTWORM

You have probably heard of Heartworm disease and may be curious about it. The possibility of Heartworm infection is high in Jefferson County. We see many dogs at the shelter that test heartworm positive. Heartworm is a preventable, but serious and potentially fatal, parasite that primarily infects dogs, cats and ferrets. It can also infect a variety of wild animals

How is heartworm disease transmitted and what does it cause?

Heartworms can only be transmitted from animal to animal by mosquitoes. When a mosquito bites an infected animal, young heartworms called microfilariae enter into that mosquito's system. Within two weeks, the microfilariae develop into infective larvae inside the mosquito; these infective larvae can be transmitted to another animal when this mosquito takes its next blood meal.

Where are heartworms found? Pretty much everywhere in the U.S. and definitely in east Tennessee. .

What pets should be tested for heartworm?

Because heartworms are spread by mosquitoes, any pet exposed to mosquitoes should be tested. This includes pets that only go outside occasionally.

Can my pet be treated? Yes but treatment can be costly. In dogs: As with most medical problems, it is much better to prevent heartworm infection than to treat it. However, if your dog does become infected with heartworms there is an FDA-approved treatment available. In cats: There is currently no effective and safe medical treatment for heartworm infection or heartworm disease in cats.

Can heartworm disease be prevented? Heartworm infection is almost 100% preventable in dogs and cats. There are several FDA-approved heartworm preventives available in a variety of formulations. Your veterinarian can recommend the best method of prevention based upon your pet's risk factors and lifestyle.

Wish List

Donations are always accepted and appreciated at the shelter.

Dog food (even though we feed a special diet we often have requests for dog and cat food from those in financial need).

Cat litter (not clumping)

Clorox

Paper towels

Canned pet food

20# 8 ½ X 11 paper

Disposable gloves (med or 1 size fits all)

Dish detergent

Laundry detergent

PLEASE READ the following special requests

We need a vehicle. Not only would it allow us to make absolutely sure all animals adopted are spayed/neutered it would make the logistics of transporting sick or injured animals needing veterinary care easier. It is important that all dogs/cats that are adopted from the Humane Society be spayed or neutered. Though we get deposits and do our best to ensure that all pets are spayed/neutered it would be better if we could transport the animals to the veterinarians for this service. This would ensure compliance! Unfortunately, we have no vehicle. If you have a van or SUV or truck that runs consider a charitable donation to the Humane Society OR consider a monetary donation and request that it be used to help offset the cost of a vehicle. We believe we can get something that runs for \$2000-\$3000. The convenience of having a business vehicle would be much appreciated by the staff and would eventually allow us to offer the University of Tennessee Veterinary School access to our animals for their students.

Need board members. The Humane Society Board of Directors may have up to 15 members. If you would like to help us but don't feel that volunteering at the shelter fits your skills consider joining our board. The board is what keeps the Humane Society going. We handle policy decisions, do fundraising, represent the Humane Society in the community, help at events, and sometimes deal with county government. We currently have several vacancies. If you are interested and would like further information call: Jeanne Ringe at 397-1840 (e-mail: onyxk9@gmail.com) or Taryn Herzog at 674-7529. We'd love to have you on board.

Donation Boxes

A new location has allowed us to place donation boxes at their business. Walgreen's in Jefferson City has several of our boxes. We truly appreciate their kindness in allowing us to have multiple donation boxes at this very popular location.

A new supporter for the Humane Society

Many people have gone to great lengths to support us. But this is the first time a dog is going to great lengths to show support. And no dog is better qualified than Farrell. We received this announcement: Farrell, a neutered Irish Wolfhound, owned by Bob & Kate Fandetti of Baneberry was awarded the Guinness World Record title of: World's Longest Dog! At 93.17 inches from the tip of his nose to the end of his tail (YES – that is just shy of 8 feet!) and 170 pounds Farrell makes quite an impression. An impression he and his owners hope to use to help the Humane Society improve the lives of homeless animals in Jefferson County. Thank you Bob & Kate Fandetti and Farrell. We look forward to your and Farrell's help in our fundraising efforts.

Prevent A Litter

We provide space for the Prevent A Litter (PALS) mobile clinic approximately once a month to provide low cost spay/neuter services for our community. Please spread the word to your friends and neighbors about this valuable service. Spay and neuter saves lives, dollars, and heartbreak, there are simply not enough homes for all the animals in our community. Call the shelter for scheduled days and costs.

NEW INITIATIVE

This fall we plan to begin the process of developing an education/information program to educate our community about over population, proper pet care and the role of the shelter. This committee's task would be to research and develop a program that could be presented in our schools and community groups in Jefferson County.

This would be a short term commitment for a specific task. Educating the public on the importance of spay/neuter is sentential in making a long term difference in our euthanasia rates. If you would like to be part of this short term committee please contact Taryn Herzog at 675-7529 Current and former educators would be especially helpful.

Statistics

In June 2010 the shelter took in 356 dogs and cats and adopted 30 dogs and 29 cats

The intake for the 2009/2010 year was 3545 down from 2008/2009 (3660) and down from 2007/2008 (4000). It appears we might be making a difference through our education and the availability of low cost spay/neuter.







