

# Paw Prints

Newsletter of the Brown County Humane Society

May 2019

# Itty Bitty Andi Life Beyond the Puppy Mill

Imagine spending your entire life in a cage with no light, no fresh air, no affection or comfort. That is the life that many puppy mill dogs experience. Kept in over-crowded conditions, forced to breed for profit, they are pawns in a multi-million dollar industry of cruelty.

According to the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS), there are an estimated 10,000 puppy mills in the United States with almost 200,000 dogs kept solely for breeding purposes. Female dogs are delivering an average 9.4 puppies per year.

Little Andi was a survivor of one of those puppy mills, rescued as part of an operation by HSUS. We do not know the extent of Andi's experience, but by ten years old, her little body had experienced the trauma of birth many times.

Andi spent her first few days at the shelter in the office, practically swallowed up by her soft dog bed. She was understandably frightened, and nervous about everything going on around her. To make things worse, she tested positive for heartworm, and that wasn't the only challenge she was facing. Andi was pregnant. The repercussions of her puppy mill days weren't yet behind her.

On the day after Christmas, Andi delivered her final litter...five puppies born via caesarian section. As tiny as mice, they needed to be bottle fed every two hours for several days until Andi recovered from her surgery. It was genuinely touch-and-go for a while, for both Andi and the puppies, but they were in good hands. Bennie, Nate, Bitsy, Rosie, and Heidi all pulled through and in March were adopted into wonderful homes.

Now Andi is able to focus on her own recovery. She is in foster care with the family that plans to adopt her once she has completed her heartworm treatment. Now she is learning the joy of what it is like to be nothing more than a pampered member of a family. You've given her the chance to know comfort and kindness for the first time.

Of course Andi and her puppies represent just six of the pets your support has saved. There are hundreds more every year, each facing their own special challenges, that are living better lives because of you.



Andi on her first day at the shelter.



Andi and one of her puppies: Heidi



Puppy Bitsy on her adoption day

To make a memorial or honorarium gift donation, please send a check along with your name and the name of the person or pet you want to honor to: Brown County Humane Society, P.O. Box 746, Nashville, IN 47448 Or donate online at: www.bchumane.org/donate with the name written in the "gift note" box

#### Donations Were Made in Honor of...

#### Wedding of Aaron & Carrie Chambers

Robert and Theresa Haan Geng and Tiffanie Li Amie Crawford Lyndsay Sanders **Noel Vargas** Ana Siebert Paul Gossman and Melanie Arellano Alfie Nancy White Allyse McDermott L.D. Thornton & Associates, Inc. Amanda Roth Shirley Boardman Amos

Debbie Jansen

#### **Donations Were Made in Memory Of...**

Alan Pockevich Harold and Janet Hurwitz Annie Jenny Johnson Atticus Darla Brown Bailey Pat and Kendra Loyal Bird Arlesa Szafranski Boo Brian and Denise Swalve Carlisle and Bug **Richard and Peggy Harris Cindy Lou** Pat and Kendra Loyal **Clover and Sweetie** Thomas and Betsy Marshall Dan Smitley Carole Page Dean Wootton, David Lee and Teddy Rose Alma Wootton

**BCHS Staff** Molly McCurdy **Bentley the Boxer** J. Howard and Linda Pratt Carol Zapapas, Deni and Mocha Amy Beck **Claire Mitchell** Patrick Beecher Donald and Marcia Moore Shirley Boardman Dustin Edward and Maura Skiba **Greg Fox and Mark Schmidt** Ruth Ann Rudolech Greg Fox The team at Anthem

Decker Thomas and Pamela Crawford Philip Smith and Sue Ahbe Donna Wright Andy Murdock Emmie Brian and Denise **Frances Schmidt** Michael and Marcia Stafford Gilly **Dick and Carol Routh** Happy Tracy Billing Honey Pat and Kendra Loval Anton and Deon Loyal **Richard and Sally Greeno** Izzy **Connie Pockevich** James Venable **Kimberly Zimmerman** Jaylin the cat Anna Scott

Jackson **Elizabeth Lewis** Pat and Kendra Loyal Dean Schertz – Brown Hill Nursery **Ruthann Berck** Anna Rice Scott Nelson Stephanie Sharp Sharon Sullivan Joe Nelson Stetson and the Drake Family Joseph Balcerak and Barb Bowman Sue Ahbe **Michele Burlew** 

John Charles (J.C.) Bone

Judith Strange Joyce Campbell **Kimberly Zimmerman** Junior Daniel and Ruth Johnson Kate Comiskey Steven and Nancy Comiskey Lilly the dog **Bob Gredy** Lucy and Sophie **Genevieve Plessinger** Macgee Adam Carver Mack Golson

Barbara Wootton Mango

Daniel and Ruth Johnson

Marguerite Kelley Michelle Unrue Thomas and Paula Hartz

BCHS MISSION: The BCHS is a community resource dedicated to promoting animal welfare. We provide temporary shelter to pets in need and promote adoption into permanent, loving homes. We support and promote spaying and neutering to eliminate pet overpopulation. We advocate compassionate care and respect for animals through public education.

#### Donations Were Made in Memory of...

Marian Hayne Robert and Nicole Luecke Mollie Brian and Denise Salve Olivia **Robert Westbrook** Oscar Daniel and Ruth Johnson Patricia Walker **Doris Cohen Renee Ogle** Vernon and Virginia Hilderbrand **Patty Jo Nolting Bill and Jackie Phillips Patty Jones** Evan and Sue Ann Werling Paul R. Pell Jerry, Derek, Griffin and **Bronwyn Hinkle** Quinn and Gabby Pat and Kendra Loyal **Renee Woehlecke and** Pat Richardson Phil and Joan Wagner Richard "Pops" Lewis Jerry and Jana Curry **Richard Bonne** Kay Johanson

**Roseanna Zompetti** Peggy Lambdin Susan Parilla **Ruth Johnson** Pat and Kendra Loyal Scout Anton and Deon Loyal Scout and Honey Jenny Johnson Scout/Tank Pat and Kendra Loyal Philip Smith and Sue Ahbe Sheba Farias Jane Fairas **Shelley Zeitz** Jim and Betsy More Suzette Harmon Jeanette Snyder Taylor Brian and Denise Swalve **Ted Rose Ruth Jarrett** Frank and Brenda Zody John and Marilyn Werner Jerry and Mary Floyd Jude Bentley and Michael Gunn Leon and Janis Kelp and Don and Phyllis Hammond

**Tiger and Cosmo** Myra Owczarzak Violet Brian and Denise Swalve Dr. Stephen Stouder Andrea Grubb Park Tudor School Karen Shrode Dave and Trish Dubish Janell Ray Fred and Betwsy McGarvey Olav Haug John and Fran Baker Barbara Soov Jack and Janae Berry Jesse Brand Jim and Connie Kidd Linda Seber, Pat Love, Jackie Humphrey and their families Bob, Deb and Dodie Barr Yamile Leon Ashley Whittington

Visit our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/bchumane/ at noon on JUNE 1st for a major announcement.

# **Teaching Cats New Tricks**

It turns out you can teach old cats new tricks. BCHS was selected to participate in the Jackson Galaxy Project *Paws Positive* program. Jackson Galaxy is a well-known cat behaviorist from the television show *My Cat From Hell*. This Signature Program of GreaterGood.org teaches staff how to train shelter cats to respond to commands such as sit, touch, high-five, and even jumping through a hoop.

The aim of the training is to increase feline adoption rates. It provides much-needed enrichment time for the cats and, more importantly, can encourage cats to become more outgoing. Staff and volunteers can show off a cat's skills to potential adopters, causing them to take a second look at a cat they might previously have passed by.



# Days Out With the Dogs

For many dogs, time at the shelter can be especially stressful. Even with regular walks, they still spend hours at a time in their kennels, following the same routine every day.

A new program this year is the Doggy Day Out. Any trained volunteer can now schedule time to take a dog on an outing away from the shelter.

Some dogs get to go for a hike in the park or a walk in town. Others might head to the volunteer's home for some TV time on the couch. Or maybe it's a drive in the country followed by an ice cream cone at McDonald's.

No matter where they go, these outings create a wonderful break in routine for the dogs and also help us learn more about each dog's real personality... information we can pass on to potential adopters.



# **Ten Years of Service**

Later this year, we will celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the Serving Pets Outreach Team (SPOT) program and you will learn how your support for SPOT has impacted the people and pets in Brown County and beyond.

We have just conducted our Phoneathon to support the SPOT program. You can still help us receive all of the matching funds available, worth up to \$30,000, if you donate by May 30th. Donate online at www.bchumane.org/donate or mail a check to: SPOT, PO Box 746, Nashville, IN, 47448

Until next time,

Visit us online at: www.bchumane.org Like us on Facebook at: facebook.com/bchumane Follow us on Instagram at: bchumane

# 2019 Events

## Dawg Gone Walk & Fiesta: May 19 from 12:00 pm – 2:30 pm

The best darn party for dogs (and their humans). Games, contests, vendors, and so much more. See the enclosed flyer for more information.

## <u>Barn Sale</u>: August 8-10 from 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

Shop from thousands of gently-used items at fantastic prices: antiques, collectibles, toys, tools, kitchen appliances, books, furniture, etc.

Donations for the sale can be dropped off at the BCHS barn on August 2 - 6.

## Online Auction: October 20 at 8:00 am – October 24 at 7:00 pm

Bid on donated items like vacations, original artwork, tickets to events and adventures, unique experiences, jewelry, gift certificates, sports memorabilia and collectibles, and more.

To donate to the auction, contact Megan at fundbchs@gmail.com

## <u>Chocolate Walk</u>: November 9 from 10am – 5pm

Stroll through the town of Nashville enjoying treats from over 30 participating shops and restaurants. Music, food, shopping and more.

Learn more about our events online at www.bchumane.org/upcoming-events/

### BCHS Staff

Shelter Manager: Caity Robertson Registered Vet Technician: Lindsey Levine Animal Care Staff: Brian Blessing, Valerie Foley, Linda Hampton, Jackie Jones, Bri Slick Vet Assistant: Darcy Miller Volunteer & Communications Manager: Erika Imhoof Development Manager: Megan Gushwa SPOT Coordinator: Patty Gushwa

#### **Board of Directors**

President: Sue Ann Werling Secretary: Greg Bennett Treasurer: Jane Weatherford Directors: Rebecca Meyer, Marcia Moore, Jeanne Skillman