



Little Shelter, Big Results

Paw Prints

Newsletter of the Brown County Humane Society October 2018

Everything Old is New Again *A Second Chance and a New Life*

A toy plastic bed sits on a table in the blazing sun. The pink plastic is scratched and faded and the canopy over the bed sags. Once a special piece in a child's Barbie house, it was relegated to the attic with all of the other toys that were no longer played with. Then in August, 2018, the bed was donated to the Brown County Humane Society Barn Sale. There, it was seen by a woman who used to have one just like it when she was a little girl. Her daughter loves Barbie, so she buys the bed to restore it for her little girl.

A couple decides it is time for them to downsize and move to a smaller home now that the kids are all grown. They have beautiful furniture but it will not all fit in their new condo, so they donate several pieces to the Barn Sale. A young couple just starting out buys the beautiful antique bed for their first home.

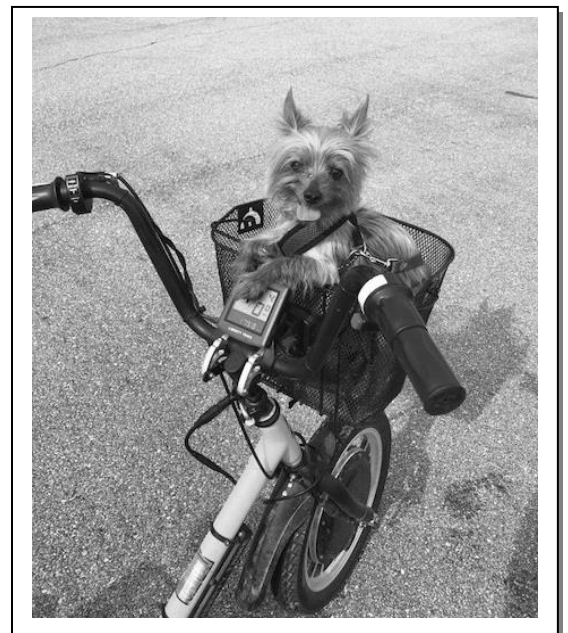
Thousands of items were donated to the Barn Sale in August. Things no longer needed by one person were purchased with excitement by another. Everything donated had value, and every purchase created a second chance...for that item and, more importantly, for the animals at the shelter.

The money raised from the Barn Sale donations goes directly to caring for the shelters animals, all of whom are looking for their own second chance. One person's unwanted kitten becomes a child's beloved first pet. Another person's overly active dog finds a new home with a couple that loves to hike. A stray dog helps bring laughter back to man who hasn't had much of it in the last couple of years.

Your generous support of the Barn Sale continues to give second chances to hundreds of homeless animals and their new families.



One child's forgotten rocking horse can become another child's favorite toy.



Eight year old Franklin's former owner was no longer able to care for him, but he got a second chance to give his love.

When Love is All You Have

When William arrived at the shelter, he was severely emaciated and dehydrated, his skin hanging off of his body. His owner could no longer care for him and had agreed to surrender him to the shelter. Unfortunately, William's poor health was advanced and declining. It was obvious that there was nothing we could do to make him better.

Whenever an animal comes to us that we know does not have much time left, our mission is to provide for them the very best life we can in whatever time they have. That is when we ask our hospice care volunteers for help.

A Love Like No Other

Hospice care volunteers provide home care for shelter animals that are untreatable (and unadoptable), but not yet suffering. Their role is simply to administer palliative care and give as much comfort and love as they can. It's not a job for everyone. Our hospice care volunteers go into it knowing what the outcome will be. Still, many say that they feel honored to be the one to give an animal that final peace.

Whether it is for a day, or a few months, we believe that every animal deserves that. It might be a staff member spending one last night in the kennel so that a dog has a full belly, a warm bed, and a comforting voice, or a hospice volunteer making a bucket list of fun for a dog's last months.

When their time comes we want to make sure that every animal has known as much love and comfort as possible. Sometimes they pass peacefully and comfortably on their own and other times, if they have begun to suffer, we help them go gently.

William was remarkably sweet and gentle. He had spent his entire life outdoors on a chain. He had never known the warmth of a house, the comfort of a bed, or the fun of toys. He was only with us for a month, but in that time he experienced all of those things. When his time came, he was surrounded by people who showered him with affection, his favorite stuffed Gingerbread Man by his side, and a delicious cheeseburger to eat. It was our honor to be with him.

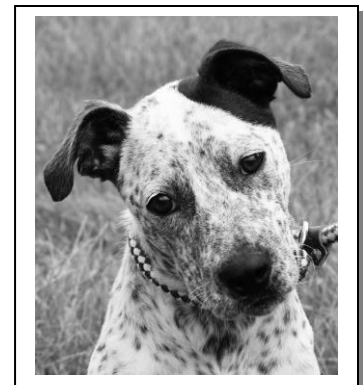
All Together Now

Five dogs arrived at our shelter from Texas and Oklahoma. They were part of a transport arranged by the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) to clear shelters still overwhelmed by the after-effects of hurricane Harvey in 2017. HSUS reached out to us to see whether we could accommodate any of the dogs and with some kennel space available at the time, we were happy to help.

Earlier this year, a cat named Bolero was transported from *our* shelter to Best Friends Animal Sanctuary in Utah. Bolero was a formerly feral cat



William, with his favorite toy, the stuffed Gingerbread Man.



Fidget, from Oklahoma.

with a compromised immune system, so he could not continue to live outdoors. Best Friends has a special area for FIV cats where Bolero could take his time learning to adjust to an indoor life. Within the last year, Best Friends has accepted three animals from us, each with behavior or health issues that they are better equipped to handle.

Not long ago, we had an unusual influx of 12 cats with feline leukemia (FeLV+) which can spread from one cat to another. Unable to house them at the shelter, our foster homes became overwhelmed. We found a shelter with a program for FeLV+ cats that could take them in.

On occasion, when we have had empty kennel space, we have taken in animals from overcrowded partner shelters in surrounding counties. Animals that might otherwise have been euthanized get a second chance and space opens up in those shelters, saving even more lives.

These are just some of the life-saving partnerships we have developed with other shelters and animal welfare organizations. Our priority is to care for and re-home the homeless animals of Brown County. Sometimes that means turning to others for help in addressing the unique challenges of a pet. When possible, we are also eager to help other shelters that find themselves in a bind. If we truly want to save every homeless animal, then we have to work together toward that goal.

Our *most important* partnership is the one we have with you. Your donations, advocacy and adoptions are what makes all of this a possibility. You show us that you share our belief that animals like Franklin, William, Fidget, and Bolero all deserve compassion and care, wherever they can find it.

Until next time,

Visit us online at: www.bchumane.org

Like us on Facebook at: facebook.com/bchumane

Follow us on Twitter at: [@bchumane](https://twitter.com/bchumane)

Follow us on Instagram at: [bchumane](https://www.instagram.com/bchumane)



Bolero is getting the time he needs to learn how to be comfortable as an indoor cat.

Upcoming Events

Online Auction: October 21-25, 2018

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

Chocolate Walk: November 10 from 10am – 5pm

Tickets are now available for this sell-out event.

See the enclosed flyers for information on these two events and check out the website for any other upcoming events at www.bchumane.org

BCHS Staff

Shelter Manager: Caity Robertson

Registered Vet Technician: Lindsey Levine

Animal Care Staff: Beth Artis, Brian Blessing, Valerie Foley,
Linda Hampton, Jackie Jones,
Brandon Shoobridge

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: Ruthann Berck, Rebecca Meyer,
Marcia Moore, Jeanne Skillman

To make a memorial or 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...

Bjorn

Julie Price

Bob the deaf cat

Catherine Menke

Judy Strange

Steve and Susan Bowsman

Nancy Pugh's Retirement

Century 21 Breeden Realtors

Sarah Reeves' Birthday

William Roberts

Sweet Sally Brown

Cahterine Menke

Donations Were Made in Memory of...

Abby

Rick Joslin

Andy Rogers

Elaine Lamb

Richard Leagre

Michael and Elizabeth Lyon

Annie

Pat and Kendra Loyal

Annie of Annandale

Michael and Jaydene Laros

Annie Ormiston

Dick and Carol Routh

Bev Platt

David Platt

Donations Were Made in Memory of...

Carl K. Lunde

Pam and Mark Jackson

Maria and Steve Ballantuyne

Beth Lunde-Stockero

Les Cook

Dodi Bailen

Bonnie Gorman

Kellie Grant and Gregg

Hamilton

Kristin Gibbons

Carl Steffen

Craig Steffen

Cathie

Ron and Marilla Schwomeyer

Cathy Hoffmeister

Connie Poling

Cooper

Pat and Kendra Loyal

Dewey and Gomez

Louise Szymanski

Diane Tetrick

Randall and Jeanette Teltoe

Dinah Gredy

Alan and Margaret Botten

Don Bruning and Sammy

Judith Bruning

Donald Eads

Lee and Jacqueline Roberts

Abigail Sperry

Freckles

Phillip and Ruthann Berck

Betty Weatherford

Gabby Cuppy

Pat and Kendra Loyal

Honey

Robert R & Donna L Ormiston

Jeff and Jackson the cat

Rosalee Trimble

Marguerite Kelley

James and Pamela Ruster

Kathryn Perdue

Jeffrey and Susan Moore

John and Jane Guletz

Stephen and Ginny Schultz

Jesse and Dominic Menoni

Milo

Cheryl Torok Owen

Patricia Brower

Betty Weatherford

Sadie Bugg

Kate Jackson

Sam

Stacy Smulka

Shelley Seitz

Jim and Betsy More

Sweetie

Thomas and Betsy Marshall

Wolfie Goodman

Sandee and Rod Russell

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.*