

Despite challenges, adapting to change creates great results

2020 has been a year of constant change and uncertainty. We have spent the year making many adjustments to the look of daily business. The shelter went from normal business hours to operating by-appointment only. Staffing levels were reduced. Meetings went from being in-person to all via phone conference. But, through everything, operations kept going and lives were saved.

We learned so much – about ourselves and about our supportive community. These challenges forced us to think outside of our box, become more efficient and discover new ways of doing things. And, in the end we (staff, volunteers and supporters) have come out the other side stronger than ever before. And, we have so many successes to celebrate so far.

Two dogs, Moby and Merlin, who had been in the shelter for over 2 years found their forever homes because of families who had time to get to know them before adopting. Senior kitty, Nacho Momma, who had been with us over six months found her home thanks to the loyal supporters who shared her story on social media. Additionally, other animals who had the potential to be long-stay animals, found their perfect fits quickly due to families being at home and willing to give them a chance.



Ollie (above) and Strudel and Biscuit (below) are just a few of the over 170 animals cared for by fosters so far this year.



Mary Beth (above) and Nacho Momma are just two of the nearly 400 pets adopted this year.



Thanks to a caring community willing to open their homes and hearts up to adoption, we have been able to import over 100 cats and dogs from struggling shelters both regionally and nationally. Most recently, we imported dogs at-risk of euthanasia from Tennessee and brought in dogs who were left homeless after Hurricane Sally. Many of these imported dogs and cats were adopted within days of arriving at our shelter.

With so many of us spending more time at home, a record number of people contacted us with an interest in fostering animals. Families who had never fostered before were willing to give it a try. Nearly 20 new families have provided foster care for our animals this year and that number continues to grow. Additionally, with the lack of spay/neuter earlier in the year we had to explore the option allowing people to foster the pet they wanted to adopt until it could be sterilized and then adopted. This allowed dogs and cats to spend time in a loving home, while waiting for their surgery instead of staying alone in the shelter.

We won't say the year has been easy. But, because of the strength of our organization and the dedication of our supporters, we have made it through and will continue to save lives. Thank you for believing in our mission and allowing us to live up to our motto of **Little Shelter Big Results**.

From strip of grass to framed building

In the June Paw Prints newsletter, ground had just been broken on the new animal shelter and site prep was barely underway. Now, just four months later the progress of this project is astonishing.

The foundation has been poured, walls have been erected, trusses have been placed and the roof deck is currently being installed. All of this in just a matter of months!

BCHS board members meet regularly with the general contractor, Strauser Construction, to review progress and receive plans for the coming weeks. Recently, the project architect inspected the progress and was delighted with the top-notch quality and speed of the work. We are thrilled with the service provided by both the architectural firm, Shelter Planners of America, and the general contractor.

Progress is on track to have all windows, doors and exterior fittings in place before winter. This will allow for work to continue regardless of the weather. Estimated completion for the new shelter is late Spring 2021.

Generous donors made this structure possible. And, now the community's support is needed to help transform this house into a home. Making the building a home will provide a healthier, safer environment as well as a more comfortable and welcoming facility for both the animals and visitors.

To learn more and contribute toward the ***Let's Make it a Home campaign*** to raise \$225,000 for equipment and furnishings for the new shelter, visit www.UnLeashBC.com.



Barn Sale sets record in funds received during difficult year



Going into this year's Barn Sale event there was a lot of uncertainty because of the impact of COVID-19 on our lives. First, would people donate? Well, after being completely blown away by the volume of donations on the first day, that question quickly switched to can enough volunteers be found to price all of this? And, more importantly, will people come back to shop?

And, luckily the answer to both of those questions was a big **YES**.

Due to construction at the shelter, the event was moved to the Olde Time Flea Market and it ended up being a blessing in disguise. Generous donors provided more items for this year's sale than has ever been received. So many items in fact, that had the event been at the Barn, there would have been no way to house everything received.

Next, over 50 volunteers provided 1,700 hours of labor to make this event possible. Many of these hours were completed in just a 10-day period leading up to the event. The days were long, hot and grueling, but this group of amazing individuals came together and had everything ready to go for opening day.

Finally, the community came together once again to support this great cause and we had a line of shoppers waiting to enter on the first day of the sale. And, man did they shop. In total, this year's Barn Sale event raised over \$46,000 in just three days! A record for the sale and a much-needed influx of funds to the shelter.

Thank you to everyone who made this event not only possible, but more successful than ever before.

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: BCHS, P.O. Box 746, Nashville, IN 47448 or donate online at: www.bchumane.org/donate/.

Donations were made in honor of...

Beauregard Lafitte (aka Sterling)

Chris Shaw

Doc Brester

Mary Lowe

Jake, Meatball and Coal

Jeffrey Thomas

Wedding of Caity and Anthony Friedersdorf

Nicohl Goodin

Scott Nelson's Birthday

Richard and Stephanie Bennett

Donations were made in memory of...

Bobbie Mitschelen

Joyce Shew

Steve Moore

John Baker

Cheryl Catanzarite

Doris Snow Forchseimer

Kristi Harding

Rebecca Hutchens

Steve Hutchens

Jannie Layne

Danna Fisher Moore

Mariana Nork

Karen Owens

Barbara Duke Sams

William Silvers

Owen Pace, Jr.

Delcie Pace

David Parks

Lorraine Riegner

Peanut

Sue Engledow

Alan Pockevich and Cocoa

Jude Bentley and Michael Gunn

Riley

Will and Catherine Snyder

Paul Rosteck, Jr.

Carman

Jerry and Darla Dexter

Suzanne McKay

Donna Nichols

Donna Rosteck

Crystal Yockey

Kathy Seal

Clay Hilton

Michael and Diane Noel

Colleen Seal and Marge Abels

Lisa Smith

Jenny Austin

Sunshine

Myra Owczarzak

Tater Tot

Ronald and Pamela Newton

Lou Turner

Jeffrey Callahan

Alan Weber

John and Cynthia Crump

David and Marsha Gay

Scott and Elizabeth Hardin

Keith Kirk

William McGahey

Donations were made in memory of...

Janette Bone

Judy Strange

Mr. Tazwell Brown

Ingrid Skoog

Chally

Melanie Dallas-Coady

Charlie, Diana, Mystic, Elvis,

Val and Archie

Robert and Nancy Coulter

Blue and Charlotte

Carmen Quick

Cocoa

Connie Pockevich

Pansy Collins

Roxanna Esguerra

Lois Tharp

Delbert Crocker

Mary Hayes

Robert and Donna Ormiston

Maggie Rose Dever

June and John Dever

Daisy Drummond

Shalom Drummond

Elizabeth Ann Eddy

Charles and Caroline Johnson

Cora Ennis

Duane Ennis

Kimberly Ferguson

Separators, Inc.

Martha Fish

Sarah Williams

Kermit Flinn

Barbara Willis

Fritz

Daniel and Ruth Johnson

Vicki Grow

Jennifer Perkins

John Grubbs

Steven and Sue Crandall

David Guilford

Berry Bingham

Amanda Hatchett

Nashville Christian Church

Nicky Hicks

Stan and Ann Armstrong

Hobson

Amanda Hurley

Chris "Cringles" Hogue

Cringles Cares Ride

Virginia Iozzo

Izzy

David and Elizabeth

Camp-Richey

Allen Jacobsen

Rod Colvin

Lulu Jennings

Amanda Jennings

Beverly Ann Kelp

Donald and Gloria Sooby

Denise Larson

Judy Hess

Dick Lawrence

Philip Wagner

Lucy

Cathy Zion

Diana Matz

Lynn Kimberlin

Maxwell

Ellen Simmons

McCoy

Phillip and Ruthann Berck

Cairril Mills

Julie Lowerhouse

The sweetest day of the year is quickly approaching

Chocolate Walk is the only day of the year that you can enjoy sampling dozens of chocolates guilt-free because you know you are helping the animals at the shelter while doing it! This year's event will take place on Saturday, Nov. 14 from 10am to 5pm throughout downtown Nashville.

There will be 32 shops providing high-quality chocolates for your enjoyment. Chocolate Walkers can stroll through town and admire the beauty of fall in Nashville, hunt for unique holiday gifts or just enjoy a great day out with friends.

Based on previous participants' feedback, shops have been asked to stay open late this year so you can go back and spend more time shopping your favorites without the crowd and almost every shop has agreed! In addition, over a dozen of the participating shops will be offering a discount exclusively for Chocolate Walkers.

The Chocolate Walk committee is hard at work making adjustments to the event to ensure a safe experience for all our participants. Tickets can be mailed ahead of time to prevent waiting in line on Saturday morning, hand sanitation stations are placed throughout town, tickets are separate from booklets so volunteers can easily mark without touching and all shops are encouraged to have chocolate packaged for pickup with less contact.

The committee has also been in close contact with the local health department to meet or exceed all expectations for COVID safety.

This event sells out earlier and earlier every year, so be sure to get your tickets today! Learn more about the event and purchase tickets by visiting www.bchumane.org/chocolate-walk/.



13th Annual
chocolate walk
2020
BROWN COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY

Until next time,

Visit us online at: www.bchumane.org

Like us on Facebook at: facebook.com/bchumane

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

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.*

BCHS Staff

Shelter Manager: Caity Friedersdorf

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Animal Care Staff: Brian Blessing, Valerie Foley,
Linda Hampton, Kaitlin Pearce

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Development Manager: Jessica Strattard-Hamilton

SPOT Coordinator: Patty G

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