

Before Adopting a New Pet, Consider if They Are The Right Fit

Shelters around the country, including ours, are seeing an increase in population and the length of time an animal waits to be adopted. There is nothing more exciting than the day that a long-stay pet finally gets the forever home it so greatly deserves! But, sometimes what we hope is a happy ending doesn't work out.

Time and again we see pets returned to the shelter because they were not the right fit for that particular home. Many of us are drawn to the dogs or cats that we think are the cutest, but when deciding which furry companion to take home, there are a lot of factors to consider in making sure that you have a pet that is a good fit for you and your lifestyle.

Temperament

Just as we have individual personalities, pets have their own personalities as well. Some temperaments you might find endearing, others might not be a good fit. If you like a lot of quiet time, then a high energy dog or cat may not be the best fit.



Exercise/Activity

Pets require different amounts of exercise. Some dogs only require one walk a day, while others may need several, in addition to plenty of outdoor space to run around. If you hike or run regularly, then a high energy pet may be a great fit. Kittens need plenty of activity and play, sometimes in the middle of the night. If you prefer more leisurely activities or have health issues that make it difficult to move, then a lower energy dog or cat may be a better fit.

Housing

Even apartment complexes that allow pets may have breed restrictions and weight limitations. If you know you may be moving, you may want to consider a pet that would meet the requirements for most living places. Housing problems are one of the biggest reasons pets are surrendered to shelters.

If you are looking for a calmer pet, an older dog like Margo (*above*) may be the right fit. If you would like to add some energy to your home, a younger pet like Rosie or Leo (*below*) may be better.

Time / Attention

If you are a person who spends long days at the office or travels frequently, you may need to employ a pet sitter or dog walker. If you have the time and interest for training, then a puppy or a pet requiring some TLC may work well. If not, then you might want to consider a pet that is already well-trained or understands basic commands.



If you have questions about what pet would be a good fit for you, don't hesitate to ask the humane society staff. They get to know the animals well and can help you determine who could end up being your lifetime companion.

Dawg Gone Success...Over \$46,000 Raised for Homeless Pets

This year's Dawg Gone Walk & Fiesta brought together nearly 150 dogs and their human companions for a day of fun and games. Thanks to the generosity of our community and the biggest turnout we have ever had, this year's event generated the most proceeds ever in the event's 22 years – over \$46,000 in total! Thank you to everyone who supported this event and made it a wonderful day despite the heat.



Dawg Gone Walk & Fiesta



SPOT Clinic Provides Vaccines to Keep Community Pets Healthy

Our annual SPOT Rabies Vaccination Clinic was held on Sunday,

April 28th. The Clinic served 494 dogs and cats from nearly 200 families received services during the three-hour event. "It is a great feeling to know that this clinic allows local pets to get the basic vaccinations they need," said BCHS board president Sue Ann Werling.



Additionally, 106 pets were microchipped during the clinic, which means their likelihood of reuniting with their families should they ever get lost is now much higher!



We would like to thank the dozens of volunteers who helped make the day possible as well as the veterinarians who donated their time to ensure the health of the pets in our community—Drs. Finney, Funk, Hennessy and Snyder.

To all who attended the Clinic, we are grateful for your support and cannot wait to see you again next year!

Community Grants Help Replace Furnace in Old Shelter Building



While daily operations may no longer take place in our old shelter, the building still serves many vital purposes for our organization. Primarily, it serves as the hub for our SPOT program and the bi-monthly spay/neuter transports. Last year, we were notified that our furnace in that building would not make it through the winter.

Thanks to a generous grant from both the Smithville Foundation and the South Central Indiana REMC, we were able to replace the furnace in our old building before the cold weather set in. Because of these wonderful foundations, the animals and humans participating in our transports were able to stay nice and warm and will continue to do so for many years to come.

Long-Stay Pets Looking for a New Home...Could it Be With You?



Inga, 2.5 years old

Time in care: 573 days



Sheba, 3.5 years old

Time in care: 190 days



Mardi, 1 year old

Time in care: 103 days



Della, 8 years old

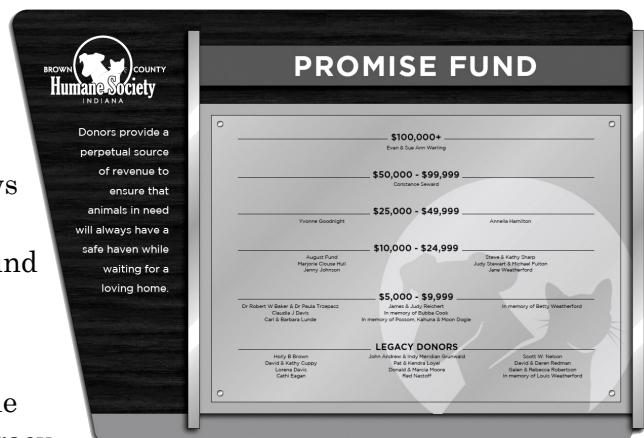
Time in care: 147 days

Your Support of Homeless Pets Can Reach Far into the Future

Would you like to ensure that homeless pets have a safe place to go beyond your lifetime? Do you have assets that you would like to designate toward saving pets far into the future? The BCHS has an endowment fund, the Promise Fund, that is designed to support the shelter in perpetuity. As this fund grows over the years, a portion can be used annually to care for homeless pets while the remaining assets are retained in the fund to provide for growth over time.

Promise Fund donors provide a perpetual source of revenue to ensure that animals in need will always have a safe haven while waiting for a loving home. If you would like to leave a loving legacy for homeless pets, join the 30 families who have already chosen to be a part of the Promise Fund.

As you think about estate planning, please consider a donation to the Promise Fund. More information is available at <https://www.bchumane.org/donate/promise-fund/>. You can also reach out via email to fundbchs@gmail.com if you would like to talk to someone in person about your planned giving.



Don't Forget! Memorial and honorarium gifts are now published on our website. To view the current listing of memorial and honorarium giving, visit www.bchumane.org/memorial-giving/.

SPOT Continues Making Difference for Community Pets

In 2024, the Serving Pets Outreach Team (SPOT) will be celebrating 15 years of serving the community pets of Brown County. This year, the program will also spay/neuter its 10,000th pet since its inception. The impact of this program is huge and has easily prevented the birth of nearly 100,000 unwanted pets. Without SPOT, our community would look very different today.

In addition to spay/neuter services, SPOT provided over 17,000 pounds of food assistance last year. A bag of food can mean the difference between a loved pet remaining in its home or being surrendered to the shelter. And, it looks like this year will be one of the biggest in terms of demand for this much-needed service.

The SPOT food assistance program relies solely on donations. If you would like to support this program, donations of dry dog food are needed now. **We are completely out and cannot meet the demand of those in need.** Any brand of food can be accepted.

Food donations can be dropped off at the shelter or mailed to BCHS

128 S State Road 135
Nashville, IN 47448.



For quicker ordering, you can also visit our website at www.bchumane.org/donate/wishlist/.

Until next time,

Visit us **online** at: www.bchumane.org | on **Facebook**: facebook.com/bchumane | on **Instagram**: [bchumane](https://www.instagram.com/bchumane)

BCHS Staff

Shelter Manager: Caity Friedersdorf
Veterinary Assistant: Amber Wimmenauer
Animal Care Staff: Brian Blessing, Jacqui Button,
Valerie Foley, Judy Getts and Amy Stover
Community Relations Manager: Megan Gushwa
SPOT Coordinator: Patty G

Barn Sale

Away A Day
Campground
5515 State Road 46,
Nashville



Donation Drop off dates
August 2nd, 3rd and 4th

9am to 4pm



Sale Dates

August 8th, 9th and 10th
8am to 4pm daily

Chocolate Walk

Saturday, Nov. 9
10am to 5pm



Tickets will go on sale online on August 1.

Stroll through Nashville enjoying treats from over 35 participating shops and restaurants. Music, shopping and more!

Learn more about these events by visiting www.bchumane.org or following us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/bchumane.

Board of Directors

President: Sue Ann Werling
Secretary: Greg Bennett
Treasurer: Jane Weatherford
Directors: Pam Clark, Cheri Flanagan, Rebecca Meyer, Paula Tarankow and Laura Wert

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.