

SUMMER 2023

HSMCIL
P.O. Box 7
Macomb, IL 61455

HSMCIL.ORG

facebook.com/hsmcil

Instagram:
hsmc_mcdonough

PayPal:
hsmcil@hotmail.com

Venmo:
@HumaneSocietyofMcD
onoughCounty

Inside this issue:

Nemec Match	2
Gimme Shelter Golf	3
Adoptions Sponsor	3
Pet Supplies Plus	4
Shelter Information	4
Sweet Briar Corner Market	4
Food Pantry	4
Business Members	5
Nick	5
Donate	5
Casino Night	6
Farmer's Market	7
Board Members	7
Goaldiggers	7
Meeting Information	11
Article	8
Zeus	9
Online Auction	9
Cheyenne	10
April	11
Heatstroke	11
Spay/Neuter Transport	11



Humane Society of McDonough County

Waggin' Tales

Summer Days -- Blue Skies and Generous Support

We are looking for blue skies to brighten our days. The past month has brought some exciting new opportunities to help the homeless animals at the shelter find forever homes and to expand our Pet Food Pantry services. Our animal support network continues to grow and this is exciting. In this newsletter you'll find examples of help from individuals and organizations for the benefit of needy animals in McDonough County.

We're so very happy to report on the amazing results of our first Casino Night, held March 4th as a fundraiser for the New Animal Shelter Building Campaign. We had great sponsorship for the event and had a net income of just over \$40,000 to deposit into the Campaign Account. Positive feedback on this fundraiser resulted in us booking the Macomb Dining Company and the Casino Party Planners for next year's March 2nd Casino Night. An offshoot of the success of Casino Night is the Nemec Challenge to match their planned donation to the Building Fund. Details follow.

Mark your calendars for a November 4th *Cat Tails at Yappy Hour* event to raise funds to support the HSMC ongoing programs. This will again be held at the American Legion Post 6 and promises to be a good time with music, food, silent auction items, and great friends. Just prior to that you will receive a mailing about the *Tenth Annual Brix Challenge*; this non-event fundraiser historically raises about a third of the annual operating budget needed for our initiatives.

The Spay/Neuter Transport program is one of those ongoing initiatives. This program is key to addressing the cat overpopulation problem in our communities. We have had four of our 10 planned transports this year, with 102 cats fixed and vaccinated already in 2023. We are limited to 25 cats per transport and registration lists are full through September. Over the previous six years, 1346 cats were sent on the transports to the Quincy Humane Society Low Cost Spay/Neuter Clinic. The number of stray and feral cats is still overwhelming, but we work to provide these services for community cat caretakers, and also to facilitate individuals who need to get their companion cats altered. Demand is high. Transports are now full through August. Costs to us for this service have risen, but we view this as an integral part of our mission.

Requests for assistance with pet supplies by individuals in financial stress are increasing. We have volunteers who deliver food to homes on a regular basis. We're happy to announce that we have a location for pet supplies in Bushnell at their Hope and Help Food Pantry.

Come by Farmers Market on Thursday mornings. We are partnering with Mosaic, across the street at 220 N. Lafayette, to showcase some of the shelter animals that are available for adoption. Beginning June 8th we hope to have dogs and maybe cats on a somewhat regular basis.

And the best news: Nick, the Great Pyrenees in foster care found his forever home with a loving family and plenty of room. His family then "paid it forward" by bringing a check to the shelter to assist with adoption costs of the available dogs and cats, wanting them all to find their own forever homes.

We hope you enjoy this edition of *Waggin' Tales* and would love to hear from you.



Bonnie Smith-Skripps and Terri Hare (HSMC President and Treasurer)
Patti and Allen Nemecek

“Double the Money Match” for the Humane Society of McDonough County’s Campaign to build a New County Animal Shelter

Humane Society of McDonough County members Allen and Patti Nemecek are ready to make a \$10,000 gift to the HSMC’s shelter campaign for a new animal shelter in McDonough County. They would, however, like to double that amount with the help of the community. The Nemececs’ gift will be presented to the HSMC once a total of \$10,000 in individual donations designated for the new animal shelter campaign is received by the HSMC. The count will begin June 1st.

The proposed McDonough County Animal Shelter will be a 21st-century facility that not only accommodates the needs of lost and homeless animals, but is also an inviting place for community members to find a new pet, volunteer, and access pet-related resources. Community members have been very generous thus far in contributing to the campaign, with over \$400,000 “on the books” for the new shelter. The Nemecek check and the community match will continue the momentum of making the new shelter a reality. Please note that the HSMC is a 100% volunteer organization (solely dependent on membership dues, donations, memorials and gifts) that works in support of, but separate from, the McDonough County Animal Shelter.

No gift is too small to make a difference in reaching the match for the Nemececs’ promised gift. The HSMC is a State of Illinois not-for-profit and a qualified 501 (C) (3) charitable organization so donations are tax-deductible. To be a part of the HSMC’s new animal shelter project and this “double the money” match please send your gift to:

HSMC New Shelter Campaign
PO Box 7
Macomb, IL 61455

PayPal donations may be made at hsmcbuildingcampaign@gmail.com

Keep your eyes open for news on when this \$10,000.00 match is completed. We hope it won’t take long. Thank you so much.

15th Annual Kris Moore Gimme Shelter Golf Outing



Kris was a HSMC member who voluntarily photographed the shelter pet photos for the weekly posters and local newspapers. Sadly, we lost Kris in 2008 after a long illness. Family and friends of Kris started the annual golf outing as a celebration of his life, and they decided to donate all proceeds to the HSMC in his memory. They have donated nearly \$15,000 over the past 14 years.



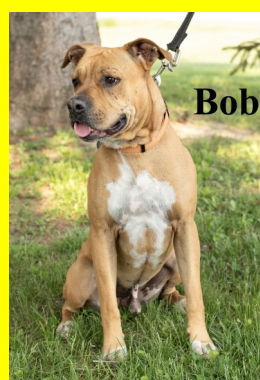
From event coordinator, Lee Trotter:

Sunday July 16, 2023, 8:30 am Gold Hills Course

15th ANNUAL GIMME SHELTER Kris Moore Memorial Golf tournament to benefit the McDonough County Humane Society. \$55.00 per person, plus 20 lbs. of kitty litter per team. Scramble format, hole prizes, raffle, many many prizes. Grilled lunch included. Prizes for the ladies as well as the mutts. RSVP to Lee Trotter at [309-371-9295](tel:309-371-9295), or leetrotter@mtcnw.net or Danny Torrance at Gold Hills (309) 837-2930. Danny has new carts and they hold more beverages than ever! We can put you on a team if you wish. We look forward to seeing you again! Please pass this along to your friends and schnauzers alike.

The Rumors are True!

A generous donor has sponsored the adoption fees for all the animals. Let's empty the shelter and pay it forward. Remember, kittens do better in pairs. We have big dogs, medium dogs, small dogs, too. Cats and kittens. Tabbies, torties, calico, Siamese. Black, gray, tuxedo, orange. You name it! Spread the word!



PET SUPPLIES PLUS.

Minus the hassle.



Thank you to Pet Supplies Plus for their tremendous support in helping shelter cats get adopted! They have partnered with the Animal Shelter to pull kitties for display in their store, which has resulted in a successful adoption rate. They also host and invite us to frequent events at the store.



BAMA
Bushnell Area Ministerial Association

We have recently partnered with the BAMA Bushnell Help and Hope Food Pantry to offer dog and cat food two days per month at their food pantry. Thank you to Pastor Hughes for partnering with us!

We will provide dog food, cat food, and cat litter during the 1st Saturday and Tuesday of each month. You can view the Help and Hope Food Pantry schedule by going to the Bushnell Area Ministerial Association's Facebook page.

McDonough County Animal Shelter

Address:

101 Tower Road
Macomb IL 61455
Phone: 309-837-2989
Email: mcas@macomb.com

Animal Control Officers:

Zach Welch
Wendy Hughes
Joe Rossmiller (part-time)
Annetta Ogle (part-time)

Open to the Public:

Mon – Fri: 11:00 am to 5:00 pm
Saturday: 10:00 am to Noon
Sunday and Holidays: Closed

McDonough County Animal Shelter (MCAS)

A county run facility staffed by county employees. The Humane Society of McDonough County (HSMC) does not have independent access to the shelter, nor the authority to arrange adoptions. The HSMC works diligently to promote adoption of the animals available at the McDonough County Animal Shelter.



Business Members

ABCDecluttering/Elisa Rasmussen
 All Pets Veterinary Clinic
 American Legion Post 6
 Animal Medical Center
 Arnold Brothers
 Bushnell Veterinary Services, PC
 Clugston Tibbitts Funeral Home
 Edward Jones
 Free Range Yoga
 Gossel's Dog House
 Green Shingle Graphics
 Hickory Kennels
 Krista Skien Photography
 Matthew S McClure, DMD
 McDonough Power Cooperative
 MidAmerica National Bank
 Minus Muffler Garage & Towing
 No Place Like Home
 Owl Storage
 Pet Supplies Plus
 Purdum Gray Ingledue Beck, Inc
 Royal Printing
 RWE Renewables
 Sweet Briar Corner Market
 The Community News Brief
 The Wine Sellers
 Wesley Village
 West Side Lumber



Nick at Gossel's Dog House



Nick with his new Dad

Nick's Saga-A Happy Ending

Nick arrived at the shelter in early December as the last of a group of Great Pyrenees that had been roaming between the Warren/McDonough County line and Macomb. He was a big snuggle dog from the beginning, craving human connection and attention. He was one of the biggest of the Pyrenees that had been at the shelter, and pretty much filled up his kennel space. Unfortunately a couple of adoption attempts did not work out because Nick showed signs of separation anxiety when left in the house alone –being destructive and tearing up some furniture. In March Lars agreed to foster him at Gossel's Dog House where he had canine friends, lots of room to roam, and plenty of play-time. Nick got used to sleeping inside, and having a routine that he could rely upon. Nick had been with Lars just over a month when a family with a country home chose to adopt him. Nick now has his own dog pack; a big yard, fields and a pond to play in; and lots of cuddle time with his humans. Nick is loving his life and thriving. His new mom reported, "Nick has fit right in to our crazy family. We feel blessed to have him."

The world would be a nicer place if everyone had the ability to love as unconditionally as a dog.

-M.K. Clinton

Donate

PayPal: HSMCbuildingcampaign@gmail.com
 Venmo: @HumaneSocietyofMcDonoughCounty
 Mail: HSMC
 P.O. Box 7
 Macomb, IL 61455

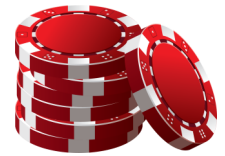
If paying by Venmo or mail, please include a note that your donation is for the New Animal Shelter Building Campaign.



SUCCESS!

We kicked off the HSMC New Animal Shelter Building Campaign with a Casino Night on March 4, and fun was had by all! We are happy to report that we cleared nearly \$40,000. Everyone had so much fun that many requested we do this again. So, we are! Save the date for the 2nd annual Casino Night on March 2, 2024.

Thank you to our sponsors, donors, and volunteers for making this such a special night.



Coming to Macomb Farmer's Market



Mosaic in Macomb has partnered with the HSMC and the Animal Shelter to showcase available animals at the shelter. Shelter dogs, Bob, Du Hast, and Yogi, along with Max, a foster dog with Lars Gossel, enjoyed their "field trip" and the opportunity to interact with Farmers Market participants. Shelter animals will be found at Mosaic during Farmers Market, usually on Thursdays.

Your HSMC Board

Bonnie Smith-Skripps - President
Bill Johnson – Vice President
Amy Betz – Recording Secretary
Terri Hare – Treasurer
Candice Biswell – Membership Chair
JB Biernbaum – Director
Felix Chu – Director
Patti Douglas – Director
Sharon Lindahl – Director
Dave Monninger – Director
Ann Stites – Director
Jennifer Tibbitts – Director
Dana Moon – Director
Brian Waller – Director
Brandi Baker – Director



The Bushnell Goal Diggers 4H Club again conducted their annual Pet Supplies Drive this spring. Michelle Sargent, Goal Diggers leader, delivered the donations to Dave Monninger's home. Dave has been housing the HSMC Pet Food Pantry in a shed on his property. He then responds to requests for food and cat litter from County members in need of assistance. We are pleased to have a Bushnell site for the Pantry and hope to make other arrangements for the Macomb-based Pantry.

HSMC Board Meetings

When: First Monday of each Month
Time: 5:30 pm
Location: American Legion Macomb

Open to the Public. Join us!



FLEAS AND TICKS—SPRINGTIME INVADERS!

Karen Blakeley DVM, MPH
All Pets Veterinary Clinic
Macomb, IL

The grass is getting green and the leaves on the trees are starting to develop. Spring is here! And with the return of warm weather pet owners need to be aware of the “return” of fleas and ticks. This article will review fleas and ticks, the associated health risks, and tips for prevention.

FLEAS. Fleas can be prevalent year round in the right environments, such as your house. The temperatures that we maintain for our year round comfort are more than adequate to support fleas twelve months a year. So if you went into winter with a flea problem and are not treating it, you will likely still have a flea problem now. For most of Illinois, our peak season for flea infestation is late summer and fall from July to November. That does not mean that you should ignore these parasites now since once established because a flea infestation can take MONTHS to eliminate.

Common sources of fleas. Fleas are marvelous jumpers and can spread easily from pet to pet or from the environment to the pet. Pets are high risk for fleas if they visit or associate with other pets (dog parks, grooming, boarding, puppy play dates, family or friends houses with pets, etc.) or if they visit high risk environments (the locations listed above, outdoor locations with high animal traffic including areas with wildlife populations or feral cat populations).

Health risks. Fleas can cause itching that varies from mild to severe. If your pet is allergic to flea saliva, fleas can cause extreme dermatitis that can result in hair loss, skin thickening, and secondary skin infection. Severe flea infestations can cause anemia since fleas feed on blood. In small, sick, or debilitated pets this can be life threatening. Fleas can also transmit several diseases to pets and people. Pets can contract bartonella or tapeworms from fleas. People can contract cat scratch fever, typhus, and the plague from fleas.

Prevention recommendations. The number of products for fleas has exploded over the last several years. Older, over the counter pesticides (most often in the organophosphate family) have been around for decades and may still have some benefit against fleas but newer, safer, more effective products are available. Prescription products such as Nexgard, Frontline, Vectra, Comfortis, Simparica, etc. are often much more effective and safer for your pet.

National guidelines suggest that all pets should receive year round flea prevention products. This is the easiest way to ensure maximum protection and avoid intermittent outbreaks of flea infestations. ALWAYS FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS ON THE PACKAGE. This is especially important for many of the over the counter products since several contain ingredients that can kill cats. Inappropriate administration can often cause product failure.

TICKS. Ticks can be present in the right environmental conditions year round in Illinois. However, we tend to see a large surge of fleas in spring with steady numbers over the summer and a second surge in the fall. There are four stages in tick development—egg, larva, nymph, and adult. The smallest ticks, the larval stages are very small and can be almost impossible to see on a hairy pet. It is important to remember that larva, nymphs, and adults are all equally important in disease transmission.

Common sources of ticks. Ticks are most commonly found in areas with dense vegetation including heavy landscaping, timber, and thick brushy areas however they can be found in urban areas as well. Several of our wildlife species, such as deer, will carry ticks and drop them in areas that we inhabit. Since one adult tick can lay between 1000 and 2000 eggs it is easy for an area close to our residences to become infested. Ticks are crawlers, not jumpers like fleas. They will sit and wait in brush for a host to pass by and will crawl aboard and eventually attach.

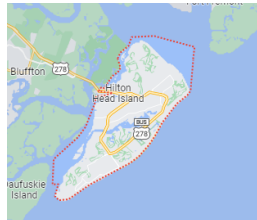
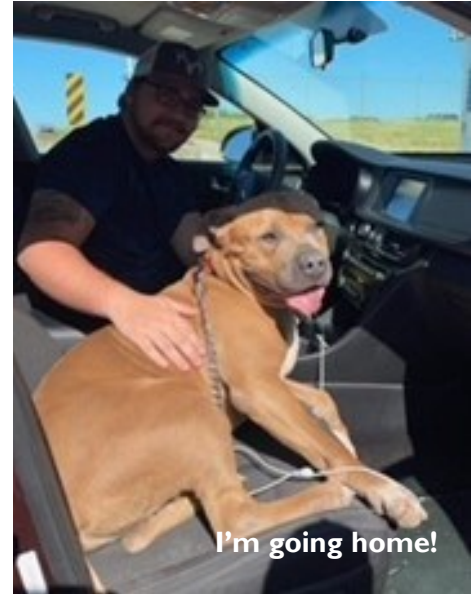
Health risks. Ticks are notorious disease transmitters—in pets and in people. In pets, ticks can transmit Lyme disease, Ehrlichia, Babesia, Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, and Anaplasmosis. I have diagnosed all of these diseases in Illinois, although Babesia is more often associated with the southern states. These diseases can be devastating and cause signs varying from fever, lethargy, joint pain, lameness, bloody noses and bleeding, neurological illness, and kidney failure. Treatments are available but if they are not diagnosed early they can cause chronic issues. Ticks transmit the same diseases to people and new diseases are being identified all the time. For instance, an association with the lone star tick and a meat allergy has been identified in the last several years.

Prevention recommendations. The most common products for tick prevention in pets are Nexgard, Frontline, Bravecto, and Simparica. These products also kill fleas and similarly should be used according the labelled directions. Prompt removal of ticks after visiting high risk areas is also very important since several of the tick diseases are more likely to be spread if the tick is attached for extended periods of time. This is the most advice for prevention of tick diseases in people as well. If your pet is high risk for tick exposure, he/she should be vaccinated for Lyme disease even if you do tick prevention.

The information provided here is for educational purposes only and is not intended to take the place of a veterinarian. As always, if you have questions or concerns regarding the health of your pet, please do not hesitate to contact a veterinarian.

Zeus Finds His Furever Home

Zeus went home with his new best friend at the end of May. He called dibs on the front seat! Reports are that he is enjoying his new home greatly. He has a large yard and loves his walks with Cole and cuddling up at night. With a "little help from his friends" at the 911 Center, Zeus struck gold with his new forever home.



Does a trip to Hilton Head, SC sound like fun? You could be the winner of our Hilton Head online auction for a one-week stay at a Hilton Head condo donated by David and Ellen Smith of Cleveland, TN!

Condo date choices: September 10-17(all are Sunday check in/out);
September 17-24; November 19-26; November 26-December 3.
September is beach weather. November is mostly 60s.

All Westin Hotel (on beach) amenities are included. Free shuttle to the Westin several times an hour. Back deck overlooks gator pond. Swimming pool out the front door. Unit 702 is the farthest unit back from the road. The owners are even paying the cleaning fee. One mile to the beach. Concierge at Westin included. 2BR/2Bath. Second floor unit. Here is the website oceanpalmshiltonhead.com with all the details.

Keep an eye on the HSMC Facebook page for our announcement of this online auction!

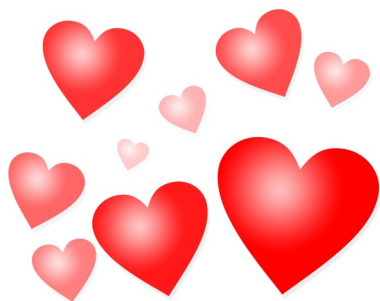
Cheyenne: An Adoption Success Story



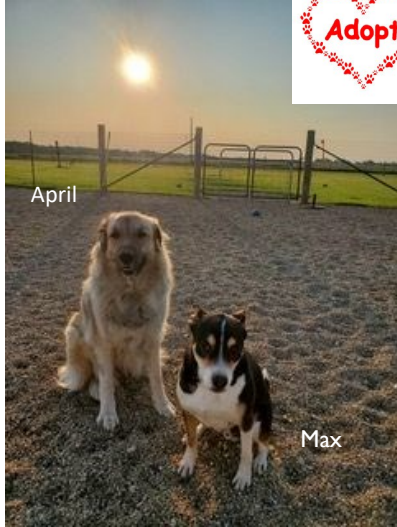
It's always gratifying to hear from adopters about special dogs we've known at the shelter. Three summers ago Cheyenne, a sweet young girl, was left at the shelter with bad hip issues that made walking difficult for her. Nate, from Columbia, MO who had an affinity for Huskies, saw her on our Facebook page and ended up adopting her, knowing she may require surgery. He has kept in touch and recently sent another follow-up message with a donation to the HSMC.

Nate wrote, "We elected against surgery, as it was determined the surgery - even if it went well - would severely limit her quality of life for two years. So we just focused on diet and especially exercise, and it's made a huge difference. I'm sure she will still undoubtedly get arthritic earlier than she should, but I don't think it's unreasonable to expect her to live the large part of a fairly normal, healthy life... whereas when we adopted her, I didn't even really consider that as a possibility."

Cheyenne is now bonded with their other dog and the couple's children (ages 1 and 4). Nate says she "has become a very sweet and affectionate family dog. It really is amazing how much difference love makes in the life of a dog."



April, who is in foster care with Lars for the HSMC, poses with Max, another dog in temporary care with Lars at Gossel's Dog House.

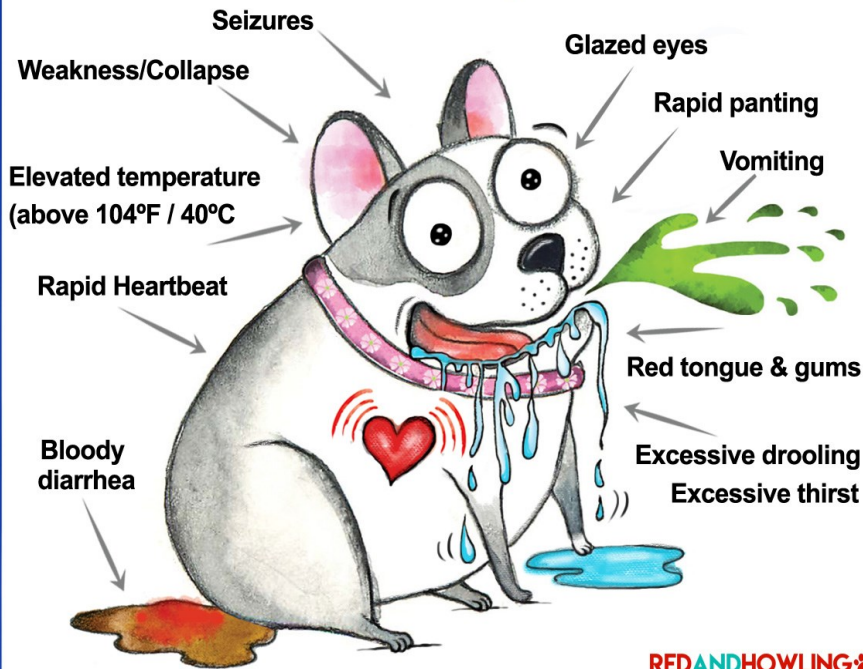


Ten Transports to the Quincy Humane Society Low-Cost Spay/Neuter Clinic were scheduled for 2023. The Spay/Neuter Transport Dates that still have space available are below. To register send your name, address, phone number and email, along with cat(s)' name, gender, color, and age to humane.society.mcil@gmail.com to register.

- September 20th
- October 12th
- November 7th



Heatstroke is Highly Fatal Know the signs*



*Dogs with flat faces (Pug, Bulldog, etc.), large, muscular (pit bull, etc.), thick-coated (golden retriever, chow, etc.), elderly, overweight, and dogs with heart or lung diseases, are more susceptible to heatstroke.



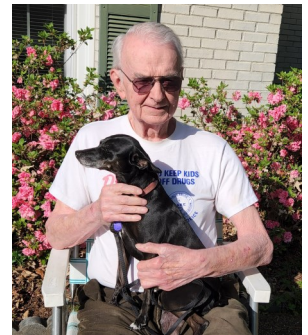
Humane Society
of McDonough County

P.O. Box 7
Macomb, IL 61455

SAVE THE DATE!
CatTails at Yappy Hour!
November 4, 2023



Coming in October! The
annual Brix Challenge!



SAVE THE DATE!
2nd Annual Casino Night
March 2, 2024!

