

# Paw Prints

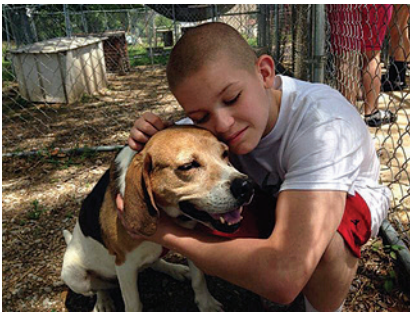
Newsletter from the Effingham County Humane Society



February 2018

## Happy Tails

Aaron Webb is a young man with a love for dogs. In 2015 Aaron fell for one of the dogs in residence at the ECHS. Do you remember Maci? Maci was a hound dog that was dumped in one of our outdoor kennels in the middle of the night. It was freezing cold outside and she was found the next morning. We tried what we could to make Maci comfortable, but she was miserable living the shelter life.



*Aaron and Maci*

Aaron had asked his mother about adopting Maci. She let him know she was unable to pay the fee for the adoption. What did Aaron do? Aaron worked painting for 2 days, 9 hours each day, to make the money himself to adopt her. Amy was worried that with Maci being an older shelter dog, she wasn't seeking a lot of attention, and that may bother Aaron. She talked to Aaron and let him know that it's not about what he wants, it is about what Maci needs. Luckily, Maci warmed up quickly and she helped Aaron mature as a boy. He was very responsible with her.

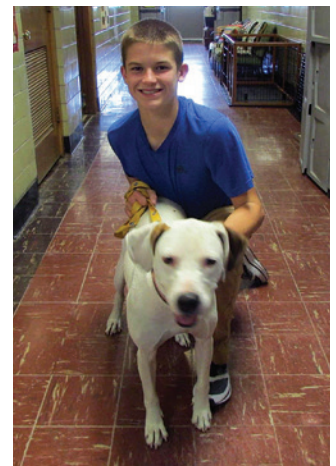
Maci lived two happy years with the Webb family. They provided her with a loving home and a best friend in Aaron before they found out she had cancer. Maci crossed over the rainbow bridge in May of 2017. When Maci passed, Aaron laid her to rest outside his bedroom window. She helped him grow up in the short years they had her. Maci was nicknamed "The Boss"; she loved pillow pets, and she was pampered down to her last day. Amy is so thankful for the lessons Aaron learned by adopting that he would not have learned otherwise.

Aaron had looked daily and asked hourly to adopt another dog all summer. Then he came across Amos. Amos tugged at his heart! One Saturday morning, while his mom was working, Aaron found a way to

come out to the shelter and spend the day there. He was pretending he wanted to help everywhere, but he secretly was just there to see Amos. He was very determined!

Aaron took notice in the fact that Amos was part beagle, which reminded him of Maci. He was looking for a young active dog and recognized that Amos was full of life! In October of 2017, after being at the shelter for almost three months, Amos was adopted by the Webb family, a family that also has a cat and two other dogs. They all get along great! GG, the kitten, has no idea how small she is, and Amos doesn't always recognize his size. GG will bite Amos' tail and he, in return, puts her head in his mouth... ALL IN FUN!

Amos loves to run around the house looking out the windows at squirrels and snuggling up close when it gets cold at night. He doesn't quite understand the concept of personal space. If you're in a recliner, he's going to be laying in it right next to you! Good thing Aaron loves cuddling with him! Amos can never be too close when laying down next to you. He is their protector and they love him tons for it! Even when he, literally, eats the toast out of Aaron's hand as it's up to his mouth. Again, the no-personal-space thing...



*Aaron and Amos  
on adoption day*

Aaron would adopt from the ECHS again tomorrow if his parents would let him! His advice to future adopters is to make sure it's the perfect match. Nothing would be worse than being given up, adopted, and then given up again. Make sure it's the dog you want and will do anything for.

I'd say Maci and Amos were pretty darn lucky when they found their forever homes with the Webb family! ■

## HOW TO REACH US!

Our shelter is located in the  
OLD FUNKHOUSER SCHOOL BUILDING  
12073 N. 1000th Rd.  
(Mailing Address: P.O. Box 321)  
Effingham, IL 62401-0321

## SHELTER HOURS

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday  
11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Saturday 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Tuesday Closed for cleaning

Sunday Closed

Telephone: 217-536-9001

Email: [4paws@frontier.com](mailto:4paws@frontier.com)

Website: [www.effingham.petfinder.com](http://www.effingham.petfinder.com)

[www.facebook.com/effinghamcountyhumanesociety](https://www.facebook.com/effinghamcountyhumanesociety)

Newsletter design donated by Amy Jo Kingery

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### ***Mardi Gras Gala***

**Friday, March 23**

Effingham Event Center  
(formerly Effingham Knights of Columbus)

### ***Garage Sales at the Shelter***

**Spring Sale: Friday-Sunday, June 1-3**

**Fall Sale: Friday-Sunday, September 28-30**

### ***Battle of the Bartenders***

**Saturday, June 23**

Ping's Tavern, Teutopolis

### ***Hit the Pavement for Paws 5k and 10k***

**Friday, July 20 – Night Run (tentative)**

### ***Pet Pictures with Santa & Mrs. Claus and Tenth Annual Holiday Open House & Bazaar***

**Saturday, December 1**

## WISH LIST

Looking for something to donate? The shelter is in need of the following items:

- 8' & 6' tables
- Wal-Mart gift cards
- Latex/non-latex/nitrile exam gloves (large or one-size fits-all)
- Menards gift cards
- Paper towels
- Bleach/bleach spray/bleach wipes
- Volunteers!!!
- 45-gallon trash bags
- Rural King gift cards
- White kitchen bags
- SCOOPABLE cat litter
- Gel dishwasher detergent
- Liquid laundry detergent
- Toy mice for cats
- CANNED dog food
- CANNED cat food
- CASH DONATIONS!!!



## 10th Mardi Gras Gala Friday, March 23, 2018

Once again our major fundraiser for the year is just around the corner. Due to all the support from folks like you, our Mardi Gras Gala last year was the largest to date, over 400 were in attendance. It will again be held at the Effingham Event Center (former Effingham K of C Hall). The night will start out with great music, by LP and The Honey Bee. Social Hour starts at 5:30 p.m. Incredible hot and cold hors d'oeuvres and renowned Creole dinner will be served at 7:00 p.m. Make sure you all save room for the fantastic homemade New Orleans desserts from the loving kitchens of ECHS volunteers.

*Laissez les Bon Temps Rouler! (Let the Good Times Roll!)* ■

### Walk It Off

Are those extra holiday pounds putting a stress on all of your zippers? Did you make a resolution for 2018 to give time to a local charity or to make a difference in our community? ECHS is always searching for volunteers who can walk dogs in the morning and mid-afternoon. There are five acres of walking grounds at ECHS. Come to the old Funkhouser School and see if you have a special talent to share, pick up a volunteer application, and tour our operation. Even one day a month would be welcome help. Call 217-536-9001 and ask our staff to set up time for an interview to see how you can make a difference. ■

### Christmas Open House

With Rochelle and Deb behind the cameras, we held our Christmas Open House and Pictures with Santa on Saturday, December 4. Our bakers were busy making platters of homemade candies and cookies to offer to our guests, and a bake sale table was filled with more yummy treats. Several craft-makers loaded another set of tables with their beautiful handiwork.

Jennifer DeWeese joined the fun with her personalized, hand-painted ornaments and her face-painting talents.

Santa was on hand with Mrs. Claus for the pictures of Santa with their fur babies. It is a treat for staff and volunteers to get to visit with the pets that we have nurtured until they found their forever homes. After pictures, our guests were invited to fill a plate with homemade treats and enjoy a cup of hot chocolate while our volunteers burned CD copies of the photoshoot.

This year we had several guests who wanted pictures of their children and grandchildren with

the family pets. Santa received several requests for Christmas toys. One young lady had composed a letter to Santa. Mrs. Claus was pleased that only one animal piddled on her apron this year.

We would like to thank everyone who came out to participate and for our many Christmas donations from our loyal friends. We hope to see you all again next year. ■

### Counting Our Blessings

Thank you to all of you who made 2017 our record-breaking year of adoptions. We have an amazing staff!

Happy New Year! Make 2018 the year to spay or neuter your pets.

Thank you to all of our foster families. They drop what they are doing to raise our newborn kittens and puppies, and provide care for expectant mothers through birth and the first eight weeks of new life.

Thanks to all who have taken heart worm-positive dogs into their homes for at least six weeks of rest and treatments.

Thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers. We couldn't open our doors without you! Bless you all.

Thanks to all of the area veterinarians and med techs who are always a phone call away from our latest emergency.

Thank you to the growing number of children who have held birthday parties with gifts of pet food and supplies for the animals. What a wonderful group of children who have put others ahead of themselves.

Thank you to the many area businesses who make the quality of life so much better for all of our animals.

Thank you to all who had helped with our rummage sale. A full month of cleaning, sorting, and testing batteries before we can begin to set up.

Thanks to Barb Koester for stripping our old floors and applying seven coats of wax for our Holiday Open House. You are the best!

Thank you to Deb and Rochelle for taking our pictures with Santa.

Thanks also to those who burned the CDs of each photo shoot. Teamwork!!

Thanks to all the handy people who have made repairs at the shelter and on our outside pens. You have made our lives so much easier.

Thanks to all of our talented craft-makers, cooks, and bakers who make our Mardi Gras and Holiday Open House such a success.

Thank you, Deb Fehrenbacher, along with her friends, for their hours of decorating for the Holiday

*Continued on page 4*



Open House. It looked wonderful, inside and outside!

Thank you to all who take our dirty laundry to their homes and bring it back clean and folded. What a thankless job and never-ending chore! ■

## Spotlight on Angels

Imagine setting your alarm twice every night to get up and feed the babies... Baby kittens and puppies, that is. It takes special people to open their hearts and their homes to the helpless newborns who have little chance of life without the care of our foster families. These families are responsible for all of the care and feeding schedules for the first eight weeks of life. These volunteers are the true angels among us at ECHS. We owe a special debt of gratitude to these dedicated individuals. They drop what they are doing to give these orphans a fighting chance at life and a forever home. The loads of laundry from soiled bedding are endless. The mop bucket is never far out of reach. There is always a puddle or piddle or a pile of poo to be cleaned before the "babies" toddle through the messes and track the muck over the floor. Fostering is not a job for sissies, yet these people seldom turn down another new litter. One of our families raised three puppy litters for us last year.

Question—what keeps these families on our foster list? All the angels who fostered these many litters know that these little ones will not reach adulthood without them as guardians. They get the satisfaction of knowing that they made the difference between starvation and a life of companionship with a forever family. We could never do what we do without these angels. We count our blessings for all they do to give the gift of love and life. ■

## Jello: A Foster Kitty

Jello is a bundle of joy, has a heart full of love and is very active. He doesn't even know that he is afflicted with feline cerebellar hypoplasia.



When Jello arrived to our home in July 2017, he could barely walk. When he did, he would fall down, get back up, and try again. HE NEVER GAVE UP! After mastering walking, he learned to run. He had trouble stopping, which caused him to run head first

into whatever was in his way! Then he would roll over, get up, shake his head, and repeat the activity!

Now, six months later, Jello has mastered these skills of walking and running. He also loves to play with his foster brother and just like all boys, they both have excellent appetites! He purrs constantly, wants to be held, jumps onto our bed, and follows us throughout our home. We don't even think about him being any different than our other cats.

Jello has brought us much happiness. We are blessed to have him. Adoption is forthcoming!! ■

## Fostering Leads to Two Wonderful Cats' Forever Home

I was volunteering at the spring 2017 garage sale last year when, in the middle of all the busyness, a man brought a little kitten into the shelter that he had found in the parking lot at his workplace at the end of the workday. I actually had no idea that a kitten had even been brought in at all until I overheard other volunteers talking about it later that Friday afternoon. The concern amongst everyone was finding a foster home for this little kitten who at that time was probably approximately 8 or 9 weeks old. Several of these volunteers were already fostering kittens at the time as last year the amount of kittens being fostered was mind blowing. Therefore, many of the people fostering were already tied up with the pre-existing foster cats. I thought I'm not fostering any so why can't I foster her? I spoke to Deb about fostering her and before I left that afternoon I was bringing home this highly energetic and most lovable kitten. I still live at home with my parents so I figured it would be the right thing to do to get their blessing on this. Of course, they were fine with it as they help me during tuck in and see other animals at the shelter with me regularly and have grown a stronger heart to help animals. I left that Friday evening with a little kitten named Jackie. She came home and everyone at home (including our dog!) fell in love with her immediately. As days and weeks went by our bond got stronger and stronger so the thought of not getting to keep her was not easy to think about. Obviously, the only way to keep her would be through adopting her. I filled out my adoption papers and was approved for her adoption. Also during this time, another cat was brought to the shelter. I am unsure on her background. An email was sent out looking for a foster home for her. It was understood that due to such a high census of cats already in the shelter and in foster care that this cat could be in foster care for weeks or even months. I responded to the email and went and picked her up at the shelter that week when she came in. She did not have a name. Karen asked me to think of a

name for her that started with the letter J. I thought about it for a little while and decided to call her Jane. I named her Jane after a lady I knew who passed away a few years ago who loved cats just about as much as I do. A side note, I am a volunteer firefighter for my hometown and I remember being called to this lady's house one morning for her house being on fire. This lady's name was Jane. No one was home at the time. No people were anyway. Sadly, we found all of her cats deceased from smoke inhalation. So, naming this cat Jane would be a wonderful way to honor this lady. She was so heartbroken that evening after the fire when her daughter went to the nursing home she was residing in at the time that all of her kitties had died. Jane the cat is all orange. When I spoke to Jane's daughter after I named the cat, she informed me how grateful she was that I would name this cat after her mother and that orange cats are her favorite. Once again, Jane grew on all of us and especially my mother and sister. Obviously mom decided that Jane needed to officially become part of our family; we were blessed to adopt another cat. The personalities between these two cats are incredibly opposite of one another. Jackie is on the go all day long and Jane only leaves the couch to use the litter box or go eat. Jackie always wants to be seen and played with and Jane could care less about attention. However, each one is loving in their own way. There are two spoiled cats living with us now. ■

## Being Prepared for Emergency Intake of Animals is Essential

This past fall a friend of mine called me; she had found three baby kittens a couple houses down from hers. She heard little meows coming from somewhere so they went to look around the neighborhood and found three helpless kittens lying on a patio behind an abandoned house. They were approximately three-weeks old. Knowing that I spend quite a bit of time volunteering at the shelter, she contacted me to get these kittens the help they needed. It was that night that I realized that keeping KMR at home ready for emergency intakes was so important. I keep enough KMR to get three or four kittens by for several days. Obviously, I could not leave work but she brought the kittens to my workplace and I got my mom to come and pick them up and gave her the instructions on kitten care just to get them through the night. When I got home the next morning I immediately gave them baths to rid them of several fleas that would have otherwise killed them. A lot of sleepless days were had feeding these kittens but every minute of lost sleep was worth

it as they grew up to be very healthy, rowdy boys. They were exposed to many things as kittens including their first Christmas tree, in which they all enjoyed climbing and playing with the ornaments. It was hard to hand them over once there was room for them at the shelter but I found comfort knowing Deb does everything she can to make sure they will be placed in lovable homes. ■

## Update on Feral Cat Care Fund

Set up in September 2016, the Sydney L. Herrick Feral Cat Care Fund has grown and is allowing us to help spay and neuter feral cats from the Effingham community.

Every year, the Effingham County Humane Society (ECHS) is inundated with kittens being born to stray and feral cats. The kittens are found abandoned and not able to eat on their own because they are too young—perhaps their mothers were killed by cars or coyotes, we may never know what happened to them.

We have many volunteers who care for these babies, bottle feeding them around the clock. And when these babies are old enough, they come into our shelter. Because there are so many stray kittens, we are often unable to take in other cats in need from the community. Our shelter space is limited.

The Feral Cat Care Fund (FCCF) was created in honor of one of our volunteers, Sydney, who passed away after a battle with cancer. She loved and adored all the cats at ECHS. She came to visit them weekly and knew each one by heart. She was happy to know that homeless and unloved feral cats from our community would be helped by this fund.

By helping to spay and neuter more cats in our community, together we can prevent so many unwanted kittens from being born. This will allow ECHS to focus on helping cats that are losing their homes or need assistance for various reasons, because we will once again have space in our shelter.

The FCCF is run solely on donations from you—our supporters. Your donations to the fund help us to trap, spay/neuter, and release feral cats in your community. We have had a total of \$2,840 donated to the fund since its beginning. We have been able to spay and neuter twelve feral cats, and hope to have the opportunity to do even more this year.

Please consider donating to the FCCF to help end the problem of homeless feral cats in Effingham County. If you care for a feral cat colony and would like us to help with spaying/neutering some of the cats, please contact the shelter or stop in to fill out a funding request form and learn more about the process.

Together we can end a long-standing problem of homeless feral cats in our community! ■



# Vinny's Corner

## Finding Lost Pets

Coming to work at the shelter every day, I notice many dogs and cats that are lost from their homes. This must be so scary for them—and their people! Sometimes we can help those animals get back to their homes, but sadly, many times, we can't.

If you notice your pet is missing, one of the first things you should do is contact any area animal shelters (in Effingham, there is the Animal Control Shelter and also the Humane Society Shelter) and rescues (in Effingham, there is EARS). Be sure to describe the pet to them thoroughly and send a picture or two to them as well. Let them know when and where you last saw your pet. Even if you think that your pet will come home on its own, it's important not to wait. Search for it, and let the people who are likely to deal with stray and found animals know to be on the lookout.

If your pet is microchipped, contact the microchip company and report your animal lost so they will be extra alert to any notifications coming in that may involve your pet's microchip number. If your pet is not microchipped, it is a great idea to get them chipped. I have a microchip; it is a permanent identification that is in a tiny electronic chip the size of a grain of rice. It is just underneath my skin and I don't even notice it's there.

Have someone help you search and have someone print out LOST fliers with clear pictures of your pet, your contact information, and any other pertinent information. These fliers can be emailed to area shelters and rescues, veterinary offices, pet groomers, and kennels, so everyone can be on the lookout for a pet matching your description. Pass them out to neighbors and people in the area where your pet was last seen.

Place some of your clothing or blankets outside near the area where you live or where you lost your pet. Also putting the pet's bed, crate, or litter box in the area may help to draw them back to that spot. They will smell familiar scents and will hopefully come back to that area. Be sure to check the area often. You can leave food there, too. If you must leave to go to work, find someone to check

the area periodically to see if your pet has come back.

It's also important to go in person to all area animal shelters as frequently as possible. While you may call and give a description of your pet, not everyone will get the same mental picture of what you are describing. It's best to actually go in person to look at the pets yourself to see if you can find yours. Animal shelters are only required to hold stray animals for a short period of time before they can be adopted to someone else.

If your pet has been sighted but no one can catch it, you may consider using a live trap. These are cages that can be set up with food inside. When the pet goes into the cage, the door will close behind it and it won't be able to get out of the cage. They won't be harmed, just maybe scared a little. If you set a live trap for your pet, it is important to check the trap very frequently. Once your pet is closed inside, it won't have access to shade or shelter, or fresh water, and it will be afraid. You will want to let it out as soon as possible.

If your pet is lost for a long period of time, be sure you are going often to check at the shelters, as someone may have found your pet after this long period and taken it to the shelter. Sometimes people find a lost pet and want to keep it for themselves or try to keep it and look for the owner. The trouble is that the owner doesn't know where to look. It is always better to take an animal to a shelter, where they have a chance of being reunited with their owner. But, this does not always happen, so if your pet remains lost—don't give up hope—keep looking.

There are also many social media sites available now that can help spread the word about lost pets. It can only help to post your lost pet on these sites as well. ECHS will always allow area residents to post lost and found pets on their Facebook page. Be sure to post your contact information so if someone does find your pet, they can contact you.

When you find your pet, it is always a good idea to take it to the veterinarian, who can check it over and make sure it is not hurt in any way. If your pet is not microchipped, this would also be a great time to ask the veterinarian to microchip your pet and explain to you how to register the chip with all of your contact information. They may also be able to help you order an identification tag for your pet's collar or harness. Both of these would help someone to reunite you with a lost pet in the future.

I hope that your pets never get lost, but if they do, some of these tips can help you find them again quickly so everyone will be happy! ■

**For a current list of adoptable cats and dogs, go to**

**[https://www.facebook.com/effinghamcountyhumanesociety/app/208195102528120/?ref=page\\_internal](https://www.facebook.com/effinghamcountyhumanesociety/app/208195102528120/?ref=page_internal)**



## Commonly Asked Questions:

### *I can't keep my dog, why can't I just drop it off?*

We have a procedure for bringing dogs into our shelter. Every dog coming into the shelter must have an up-to-date rabies vaccination and proof is required. Legally, every dog over 16 weeks of age must have a rabies vaccination. We will not evaluate a dog unless we have proof of this. Once we have this information, we can schedule an evaluation for the dog. This will usually require a separate appointment time to be made.

Every dog coming into the shelter must pass a temperament evaluation. Dogs must be comfortable with strangers handling them all over, putting leashes on and taking them off, picking them up if they are a smaller dog, and various other exercises. We will watch for any signs of food or other aggression, guarding behaviors, etc. Dogs will be evaluated with other dogs and must not behave aggressively. We do an evaluation on each dog before it enters the shelter to protect our many volunteers, our staff, and the public.

As we are evaluating the dog, the owner is asked to fill out an extensive questionnaire. This allows us to get to know the dog better, its likes and dislikes, past history, etc.

Sometimes we will find that a dog will not do well in a shelter environment. If they are very fearful; for example, they would do better going to a rescue group that can house the dog in a stable and quieter foster home arrangement. Shelters are noisy and stressful places for many dogs. Some will adjust and can tolerate this, but others cannot. Some dogs are fine being handled by many types of people, and some prefer to be handled by a smaller, more consistent group of people. We will always suggest what we feel is in the best interest of the dog.

Once the dog passes the evaluation, we MAY be able to take the dog into the shelter that day. If the dog is already spayed/neutered, up-to-date on all vaccinations, has a negative heartworm test on file and is current on monthly heartworm preventative, we would be able to take the dog that day. If the dog is not completely up to date with vet care, and if we had room in our isolation room for a dog, we could also take the dog that day. We cannot put a dog into our dog kennel room unless it is completely vetted.

This means that if the dog is not completely vetted, and we do not have room in our isolation room at that time, the dog would go back home with its family until ECHS can make an appointment at a local vet clinic to have all the vet care taken care of. The dog's family will then need to drop the dog off at the vet clinic for its appointment. After the appointment, ECHS will pick up the dog and bring it back to the shelter.

Sometimes we are contacted about taking a dog, but we don't have room at the moment. We do keep a waiting list for those wanting us to take their dogs. There is never any guarantee about how short or long the wait will be until we have space for that dog; it depends on the space at our shelter to care for the dog properly, and how many people are on the waiting list ahead of that family.

### *I can't keep my cat, why can't I just drop it off?*

There is a very large cat overpopulation problem in our area. Because so many cats are not spayed or neutered, we are bombarded with kittens every year, often twice a year. Most of these kittens are orphaned, injured or sick, and require around the clock care to get them healthy. This leaves us with an abundance of cats every year.

It may often take us the remainder of the year to adopt out those kittens (by then grown into cats). We have limited space and resources to care for cats, and when that space is full, we are unable to take in any more cats. Unfortunately this is a common problem for us and the community—we are often full and unable to take in more cats.

Cats get sick very quickly when they are overcrowded and stressed. Cats as a species do enjoy having a lot of personal space. We need to ensure that we don't overcrowd our cat spaces, so our cats can remain healthy and ready for adoption into new homes. There are guidelines set in place by ASPCA shelter veterinarians, which we try to follow for the well-being of all our cats.

Any new cats to the shelter must also spend at least two weeks in quarantine in a room away from our cat room to make sure they are adjusting to the shelter easily and are healthy. This requires space to be available in our quarantine room, in addition to the larger cat room where they will be moved after the two weeks.

As we work together as a community to get as many cats spayed and neutered as possible, this problem will diminish and hopefully will go away for good. It will be a happy day when we will be able to take in any cat in need that is brought to us. We would love to be able to help them all, but sometimes we simply can't.

We do take in cats from the community as we have space and are able to do this. We do also keep a waiting list for cats waiting to come into the shelter. We are only able to take cats that are socialized and friendly with people and other cats. Sometimes the wait is very long. We cannot bring cats in from the waiting list unless we have the space in the shelter to care for them properly. It is best, and usually fastest, for you to try to find a home for your cat on your own. Family and friends may be happy to take your cat, or perhaps they know someone who is looking for a new cat. ■

# The Effingham County Humane Society would like to thank the following sponsors and donors for their contributions to our Mardi Gras Gala 2017. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts—we couldn't have done it without your support!

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Tony & Sherri Sandschafer  
Derek & Mindi Sheets  
James & Sally Sherrick  
Walmart Supercenter  
Y-Yard

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Jean Black  
Albert Buening  
Cherry Hill Enterprise, Inc.—  
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Donna DePaola  
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James & Caroline Hakman  
Heidanen Hidden Timbers—  
David & Elizabeth Heiden  
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Jansen Brothers Garage, Inc.  
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James Jones  
Chris Kade & JoAnn McNaughton-Kade  
KT Boutique—Katrina Shelton  
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Danny & Linda Lewis  
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Mile End AG Services, Inc.—  
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Ann Newton  
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Sharon Plummer  
Alice Richards

Philip Stebbins  
(in memory of Bev Steinquest)  
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Susan Woods

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Nail Salon  
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Susie Cisna  
The Cookie Jar  
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Cracker Barrel Old Country Store  
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D-J's Party Supply  
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Donnewald Distributing Company  
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Fujiyama Japanese Steak House  
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Gabby Goat American Pub & Grill  
Gayla's Kountry Kitchen  
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Dean & Judy Jacobs  
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Jesscuts  
Jesscuts—Jade Bell  
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Michael & Beth Kessler  
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Koerner Distributor, Inc.  
KT Boutique  
Lake Sara Marina, Inc.  
David & Linda Landers  
Larson's Landing  
Sandra Lautrup  
Lee's Tool Sales, Inc.  
Leisure Times Pools & Spas  
Lions Distinctive Wines  
Nancy Liss  
Jerry & Pasty Loew  
Marco's Pizza  
Maxedon Landscaping  
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McMahon Meats  
Mette's Cabinet Corner  
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Miller Oil Company  
Larry & Patricia Milleville  
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NAPA Auto Parts  
Niebrugge Lumber Company, Inc.  
Niernerg's Steakhouse  
Nierneyer's Bar—Brian & Juel Nierneyer  
Noah's Ark Pet Shoppe  
Northside Ford-Lincoln  
Nuxoll Food Center  
On The Rox Pub & Grub  
O'Reilly Auto Parts

The Orchard Inn  
Pagel's Silver Dollar Lanes  
Panda Express  
Photo Reflections—  
Ken & Phyllis Kruenegel  
The Pizza Man of Effingham, Inc.  
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John & Meredith Richards  
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Simply Hair Salon—Amy Stewart  
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Sloan's Auto Body & Repair  
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Sporty's Beverage Connection,  
Altamont  
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Steak 'N Shake  
Taco Bell  
TGI Fridays  
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3D Drywall and Painting, Inc.—Aaron  
Doedtmann  
Trophies Unlimited  
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Village Wine & Gifts  
Weber Brothers Equipment, Inc.  
Weber's Clothing, Inc.  
Weber's Jewelry, Inc.  
The Wellness Loft  
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Norma Wohlman  
Ron Worman  
Barb Zerrusen  
Jill Zerrusen  
Leah Zerrusen





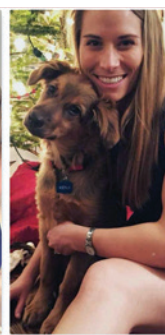
There's nothing that makes the hearts of the volunteers and Deb and Karen swell more than when one of our animals is adopted... except for when the new adopting parents share updates with how our furry friends are spending their lives!

## MORE Success Stories!

*From owner Kaylee Fred: Just thought I'd give you a quick update on Mia! She is doing wonderful and fits right in! She is so good with our cats and loves everyone! We couldn't be happier to have her as part of our family!!! Thank you!*



*From owner Amy Hill: Just an update on my three kitties I adopted. They are all spoiled. Juliet stays inside all the time. She is still very playful. Noamio is all settled in and no longer fights Ju Ju. She catches a lot of birds and still loves to lay with the dog. Ju Ju loves to climb the rafters in the barn. They are all very sweet and lovable kitties.*



Remember Evan, our puppy from last fall who, along with his siblings Gump, Diesel, and Boone, were rescued after being dumped in a ditch? The four pups went through rigorous treatment for worms; Boone, Diesel, and Gump were all adopted shortly after successful treatment, but poor little Evan was on a medical hold. Seems his front legs appeared to be growing crooked. After careful consideration, it was decided that Evan would be rehomed to a rescue outside of St. Louis where he could receive proper medical treatment and prospective surgery. We were all pleased to find out that Evan didn't need surgery after all! He was adopted late October and has been renamed Kenji. Happy tails, Kenji!

## Generosity = New Looks for ECHS



For many years, prospective pet owners and visitors have been greeted to ECHS by our old wooden school doors. This fall, at long last, we have installed a new energy-efficient steel door and fashionable glass panels that instill a more modern, welcoming look to our animal's home. Many thanks to Joe Freimuth for volunteering his time and talents to replace our old school-house doors. Great job, Joe!



You might have noticed in the fall that the sign for the Humane Society went missing. The new owner of Steve's Liquor and Snacks, Steve Davis, brought to our attention that during the construction of his new business at the corner of Route 40 and Funkhouser Road, our sign met a disastrous demise. Through the generosity of Mr. Davis and Double D Signs, the Humane Society was presented with a beautiful new sign at no expense to ECHS! An arrow will be added in the near future, pointing the way to our many lovable furry friends. Pictured left to right: Dennis Deters, owner of Double D Signs; Mark Clineff, president of the ECHS Board of Directors; and Steve Davis, owner of Steve's Liquor and Snacks. The cats and dogs express their appreciation to Mr. Deters and Mr. Davis for our fine new sign.





Brown, Jewel  
 Bryant, Michael & Gretchen  
 Budde, Lois  
 Buening, Albert Jr.  
 Buckner, Mary  
 Chapman, Jewell  
 Cline, Ashley  
 Cook, Marjorie  
 Crain, Joshua & Charity  
 Croxell, Mark & Leslie  
 Dasenbrock, Michael & Catherine  
 Denger, GERALYN  
 DePaola, Donna  
 Dole, Janice  
 Doty, Larry & Becky  
 Dow, David & Joanne  
 Effingham County Fair  
 EHS Class Of 1960  
 Elefson, Milton  
 Esker, Dan & Cathy  
 Esker, Doug & Shannon  
 Erwin, Margaret  
 Erwin, Vickie Jane  
 Evans, Linda  
 Eversman, Mary Ellen  
 Farley, Michele  
 Fehrenbacher, Debra  
 First Christian Church  
 Francis, Jill  
 Francis, Lindsay  
 French, Steve & Kathleen  
 Fricke, Carl & Stephanie & family  
 Frieze, Edie  
 Fritcher, Jessica  
 Fritscher, Charles & Lisa  
 Goeckner, Leonard  
 Goldstein, Pauline  
 Green, Susan  
 Greuel, Norma  
 Grunloh, Bruce & Cheryl  
 Grupe, Dana  
 Grupe, Donald & Karen  
 Haarmann, Dr. Bernie & Deborah  
 Habing, Tytia  
 Hagler, Dustin & Andrea  
 Hakman, Chris & Dana  
 Halloran, Lora  
 Hardiek, Brad & Heidi  
 Hardiek, Mark & Brenda  
 Hargis, Daniel & Janet  
 Harrison, Peter & Ramona  
 Hartke, Dennis & Mary  
 Harvey, Jerod & Brooke  
 Hawickhorst, Henry & Norma  
 Heidanes Hidden Timbers /  
 David & Elizabeth Heiden

Hennigh, Amy  
 Henrikson, Svetlana  
 Herboth, Erica & Alyna O'Hanlon  
 Hess, Cory  
 Hilligoss, Alan  
 Hoelscher, Charles & Susan  
 Hoekstra, Ryan & Hannah  
 Holste, Daren & Beverly  
 Jahraus, Dale & Janet  
 Jansen, Leonard & Patilynn  
 \*Jansen, Marty & Stacey  
 J.C. Penney (anonymous employee)  
 Johnson, Dennis & Nancy  
 Johnson, Fred & Kendra  
 Kabbes, Frank & Anne  
 Kennedy, F. Robert & Janet  
 Kidwell, Jerry & Tamra  
 Klosterman, Stephen & Robin  
 Koester, Amy  
 Kuykendall, Cara  
 Lane, Teresa  
 Lark, Philip & Angie  
 Leach, Patrick & Andrew  
 Lessley, Brett & Amanda  
 Lewis, Danny & Linda  
 Long, Sara  
 Loy, Donald & Debra Power  
 Mackowiak, Robert & Joy  
 Maisel, Vicki  
 Manuel, Larry & Sandra  
 Marts, Charles & Beth  
 McMahon, Timothy & Kay  
 Merz, Henry & Dianne  
 Metter, Philip & Betty  
 Miller, Amber  
 Miller, Beth  
 Montello, Leonard & Jane  
 Mumma, Heather  
 National Bank, Hillsboro  
 Nelson, James & Nancy  
 Niemerg's Steak House  
 Nosbisch, Michael & Abbey  
 Paddick, Jeffrey & Regina  
 Palmer, Suzanne  
 Patton, Larry & Susan  
 Piotrowski, Chet Jr.  
 Platt, Kristin  
 Plummer, Michelle  
 Probst, Ken & Karen  
 Ready, Blanche  
 Reed, Gary & Debra  
 Rees, Bonnie & Jim Hubbard  
 Rhodes, Don & Jann  
 Riddle, Mark & Linda  
 Roberts, Kevin & Patti  
 Robertson, Frank & Michele

Rural King  
 Sanderkoof, Martha  
 Sarver, Aaron & Ann  
 Sawin, Pamela  
 Schaefer, Barry & Linda  
 Schimmelpfening, Sue  
 Schoenhoff, Jill  
 Schultz, Bob & Audra  
 Schultz, Jackson  
 Seale, Laura  
 Sehy, Dr. Michael & Sharon  
 Shadwell, Jodi  
 Sipe, Robert & Marie  
 Slack, Lawrence & Patricia  
 Slane, Michael & Star  
 Slaughter, Frank & Gloria Summers  
 \*Slaughter, James  
 Smith, Neil & Barbara  
 Smith, Roy & Donna  
 Sorling, Scott & Angela  
 Spruell, Clint & Kay  
 Stebbins, Phillip  
 Steppe, Thomas & Deborah  
 Stewart, Kenna  
 Storm, Dwight & Beverly  
 Sudkamp, Brain & Julie  
 Summers, Ryan & Janey  
 Thomas, Jolene  
 Traxler, Allan & Linda  
 Tucker, Kelly  
 Turner, Diana  
 Verdeyen, Jim & Susan  
 Vukelich, David  
 Waggoner, Terry & Gloria  
 Wallace, Maxine  
 Walmart  
 Warfield, Daniel & Carol  
 Weaver, Wayne & Phyllis  
 Wells, David & Linda  
 West, Robin  
 Wharton, Maggie  
 Williams, Dennis & Sue  
 Woelfer, Topper & Sarah  
 Wolters, Tom & Ann  
 Wynne, Elizabeth  
 Yager, Dee Ann  
 Youngblood, Terry & Linda  
 Zerrusen, Leah

### In Honor

Grandchildren Amber, Ashlee, Ryan &  
 Luke  
 Lucy & Roger  
 Archie  
 Michelle Muhlbachler

### Memorials

Dixie Baker  
 Baxter Burton  
 Sydney J. Herrick  
 Harry Johnson  
 Michael Knabe  
 Kim "Kimmy" Kobler  
 Sue Kollmann  
 Tori McMahan  
 Roland O'Leary  
 Juanita Fay "Bonnie" Reed  
 Elizabeth Runde  
 Don Siddens, Jr.  
 Beverly Steinquist  
 Marjorie Stuemke  
 Mike Slaughter  
 Bonnie Webster  
 Gertrude Winter  
 "P. J." beloved Esker family dog

### Memorial Bricks Purchased

Armstrong, Patrick & Ruth (We Miss You  
 Jolina, Charlotte and Girlfriend)  
 Esker, Dan & Cathy (Stormy - Bailey -  
 Loved)  
 Herrick, William & Sherry (Sydney L.  
 Herrick and Her Cat, Mo - In God's  
 Care)  
 Martin's IGA Plus (In Loving Memory of  
 Cassie - Newlin & Donna Martin)  
 McEvers, David & Shirley (In Memory  
 of Harry & Mildred Ludwig - 2013  
 & 2107)  
 Poelker, Brian & Barbara (In Memory of  
 Garfield, We Will Miss You)  
 Reed, Gary & Debra (Remembering  
 Mike Knabe - RIP - Best Friend Jaime)

### Pets Who Have Been Sponsored or Help with Their Medical Bills

Baby Girl - dog  
 Elmer - dog  
 Evan - dog  
 Florence - cat  
 Frederick - cat  
 Gill - cat  
 Jellybean - kitten  
 Maxine - dog  
 Monet - cat  
 Naomi - cat

\* Denotes donors who were not printed in the Fall 2017 newsletter. ECHS regrets the error.



# Age and Wisdom

Baby Girl is always the first dog to greet me in the dog room. She has a happy tail. I could swear she smiles. She has a short black coat that doesn't seem to shed much. She gets excited but doesn't show it with barking. She never makes a mess in her kennel, so I believe she is house-broken. She likes adults and kids, and she is leash-trained. She sits on command and is learning about "Stay".

She sounds like the perfect dog, but she's been with us for a few months. She has one flaw that has kept her from finding her forever home... Baby Girl has gray in her muzzle. Her age is somewhere between ten and thirteen. Older dogs seem to be the ones who are always left behind in favor of a puppy or a young dog. Check the statistics. You will see that the odds are against the seniors. People are afraid to make long-term plans with a older animal for fear of their time together being over too soon.

My hope is that a wonderful person will come to the shelter and recognize all of the good things about

Baby Girl. She has grown beyond the days of chewing shoes and eating the furniture; her potty-training is a relief to all who value their carpeting. Her happy tail is her promise that she loves to be with people and she will make a welcome companion for someone who is tired of being alone.

We never know how much time any of us have ahead of us, but we try to make the very best of our time. Baby Girl's adoption fee has been reduced to \$50. That is a small price for guaranteed unquestioning love and companionship. Is there a hole in your life that could be filled with the devotion of a dog? I think that I know an older girl who would love to share her love with you.

Thanks to the two giving souls, who have sponsored her. They have seen the love she has to offer a new family.

**UPDATE:** Right before the printing of this newsletter, Baby Girl found her happily-ever-after!



## HELP US SAVE A HOMELESS DOG OR CAT TODAY!

We are a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Your donations are not only greatly appreciated by our organization, but they are also tax-deductible to you!

◆ DOUBLE DIAMOND DONOR	\$2000 and above	_____	◆ GOLD GUARDIAN ANGEL	\$250 to \$499	_____
◆ DIAMOND DONOR	\$1000 to \$1999	_____	◆ SILVER SUSTAINING	\$100 to \$249	_____
◆ PLATINUM PET PARTNER	\$500 to \$999	_____	◆ BRONZE BEST FRIEND	\$25 to \$99	_____

Please use the enclosed envelope to mail in your donation. Donations will be listed by donation level in the next issue of ECHS Paw Prints. If you do NOT wish your name to be disclosed please check this box: ☐

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail this form and your donation to:

E.C.H.S.  
P.O. Box 321  
Effingham, IL 62401-0321

We do not disclose your personal  
information to any other organization.  
Should you have questions, please contact us.

