



Missaukee HUMANE SOCIETY

DECEMBER 2016

5310 W. Houghton Lake Road • Box D • Lake City, MI 49651 • (231) 839-3800
info@mhspets.org • www.mhspets.org • A NO-KILL Shelter • Open 7 days a week

SINCE SEPT 1...

INTAKES

Dogs 34
Cats 18
Puppies 5
Kittens 16

ADOPTIONS

Dogs 21
Cats 25
Puppies 5
Kittens 45
Rabbits: 1

RETURNED TO OWNER

Dogs 7
Cats 0
Puppies 0
Kittens 0

Currently in the Shelter

Dogs 13
Cats 38
Puppies 2
Kittens 10



Dear Friends of Animals,



I can hardly believe that another year is about to end. February 4, 2017 marks my 13th year with Missaukee Humane Society. The Shelter has grown into something few thought it could or would. I have surrounded myself with knowledgeable people from many aspects of life and asked them to work on behalf of our animals. There are so many people who I wish to thank that there is not enough space in this newsletter. You all know who you are. Thank you for helping me to turn my vision of what this shelter could be, into a reality. Here's to another decade!

As is always the case, we have to ask for funding. The need never ends. It is a constant battle to keep ahead of the bills. From the bottom of our hearts we thank those of you who have been loyal contributors/sponsors.

There are easy ways to help us out without breaking your budget. You can sign onto our web site and go to the "donate" button. Click on that and you can either make a one-time donation, or even better, sign up to make a small ongoing contribution. Over time, those small donations help out a great deal.

Elsewhere in this newsletter, Carolyn, our email lady, explains how you can contribute whenever you make online purchases or even just using a search engine.

If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please give the Shelter a call and we will remove you from the list.

So much has happened this year. One of our wonderful donors made it possible for us to purchase a cargo van! This has greatly helped our

mission. Whether it's transporting animals, assisting with stray animals, or going to events, it has brought more attention to MHS than we ever could have. When I drive down the road fellow motorists point and wave – This brightens my day more than you can know! We welcomed two new board members: Mary Jo Binkley, Director of Facilities and Residence Life at Baker College of Cadillac and Carolyn Wilson, a financial professional and former law enforcement officer. I look forward to working with both of these wonderful women who share a passion for animals and our organization!

Best wishes for the Holidays!

Kyle Musselman

Director

kyle@mhspets.org



Feline Leukemia + Kitten Finds Second Chance

This little orange tabby kitten was found as a stray. We did not expect him to survive. His body temperature was dangerously low and he was not eating. We held our breath the first night in our care. He surprised us all! With each day he was gaining more and more strength and was getting quite an appetite!

It wasn't long before he was a healthy and naughty kitten hiding behind his bed and pouncing out as we walked past his kennel!

He finally was able to be neutered, but we received some sad news. His test came back positive for feline leukemia. It is always hard to adopt positive cats and kittens. Mostly due to a lack of education with the majority of the public looking to adopt animals. In the past, we have reached out to rescues who special-



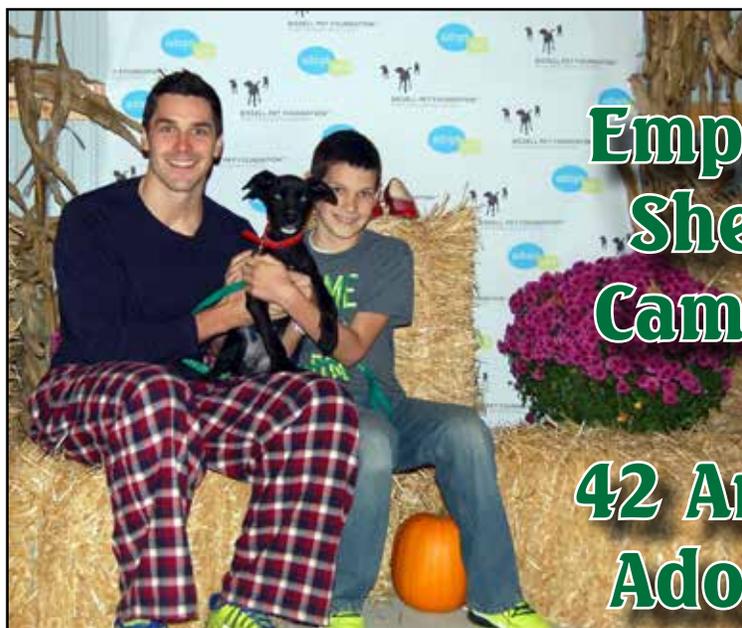
ize in FIV or Feline Leukemia positive felines. Sadly, many of these rescues are full to capacity and several have closed

down due to lack of funding. Thanks to your support, little kittens like this are given a second chance to a healthy life in the right home! Happy Tail: Adopted November 18, by Bryce Kelly of Lake City.

Empty The Shelters Campaign – 42 Animals Adopted!

On October 22, BISSELL Pet Foundation hosted their Empty The Shelters (ETS) Campaign. They covered all adoption fees for any adoption that day. This was our first ETS event. It went very smoothly. Our adoption process did not change. Those with approved applications and vet references were able to adopt free of charge. MHS adopted 42 animals! Record breaking of 26 adoptions in one day!

6 dogs, 1 puppy
8 cats, 27 kittens



Empty The Shelters Campaign

–
42 Animals Adopted!



Keeping Your Pets Safe This Holiday Season

Make sure your Christmas tree is anchored so it can't tip over, place in a corner, and make sure electrical cords aren't laying out loose. Tinsel is a danger especially to cats. Keep lights, glass/plastic ornaments off of the bottom branches. Don't decorate with food (popcorn strings etc.) these can cause intestinal blockage. Wire ornament hooks are also dangerous if swallowed. Candles are easily tipped over and can burn your pet.

It is tempting to want to treat your pet with his/her own meal during the holidays, but many things are harmful to animals. Toxic/Poisonous things to avoid: mistletoe, holly, poinsettias, sage, onion, garlic, walnuts, wacadamia nuts, grapes, raisins, coffee grounds, fruit pits, and apple seeds, chocolates, anything sweetened with xylitol, and alcohol. Pork products (they tend to be fatty and high in sodium) and other fatty foods can send your pet into acute pancreatitis. Cooked bones can brake into sharp pieces and tear holes in the intestinal track.

Have a "Safe" place for your pet(s) to be while celebrations are going on. A bedroom, or a quiet room with a bed, food, and water. You can also put on the radio or T.V. to drowned out loud noises. Most animals don't like loud noises. This helps to prevent accidental consumption of toxic foods/alcohol, fear biting, and your pet getting loose and potentially lost.

Microchipping is one way to help your pet find its way back home if found and we offer this service to the public for \$20 per pet. Call us to make an appointment.

- Vet Tech Mel



**2017 MHS Calendars In Stock!
\$10 plus shipping/handling**

**DONATE \$100 or more
& we will send you a calendar as a
thank you gift!**

**MHS Spay & Neuter Clinic
schedule today: 231-839-3800**

Ways To Help Raise \$\$\$

Most of you know me as the "email lady." June 17, 2000, we adopted our dear Emma from MHS. That was how it started. We had a fondness for the place and began donating. Along came Kyle, who asked me to take over the email list, send out emails, and take care of the online "thank you notes."

Now I am proud to be on the Board of Directors. MHS has, under the direction of Kyle, grown to be a fine Shelter for animals waiting for their forever homes. He has brought the place up to very high standards with great improvements to the facility. He is full of ideas for future improvements.

I'm still a donor and am always on the hunt to find ways to make it easier for everyone to help out. The easiest is to make a monthly automatic donation through PayPal. You can find the link on the website. For example, just giving up a few lattes each month and sending the funds to MHS makes a big difference. Small amounts monthly are so welcome!

Another way to donate without it coming out of your pocket is to use smile.amazon.com. Go to their website and sign up naming Missaukee Humane Society as your charity. After that, all you have to do is shop at Amazon using Smile.Amazon.com

GoodSearch.com and Goodshop.com work together. If you search through Good Search, each click sends money to MHS. Using their portal to get to Good Shop means you can shop at many of your favorite online sites and have a portion of the value of your order come to MHS.

Here is how it works. Many companies donate to charities. Using Good Shop, you direct which charity gets the donations. The company allows their customers to make their charity selection!

In both Amazon and Good Shop each order sends a little to us. Over time it really adds up. If you need help let us know and we will talk you through it.

100% of your donation funds go directly to the animals. We don't pay fees to anyone. Wishing you all the best of the holiday season!

Carolyn Wilson



Shelter Transfers

After the Empty The Shelters campaign – MHS only had 2 dogs available for adoption. With owner surrender numbers down, we reached out to other shelters to transfer dogs in. Here are some of the faces we were able to transfer to MHS and some have already been adopted!



MHS In The Field

Update on the colony of 70+ feral cats in Bloomfield township, Missaukee County.

MHS has secured a grant through the Annie Lee Roberts Animal Emergency Fund to spay or neuter the cats. We also received monies to vaccinate including rabies.

However, the grant did not cover the purchase of live traps in order to complete this task. Due to this being our 5th case of a high volume number of cats – MHS ordered 100 live traps totaling \$1,000 dollars.

A mobile unit will be on-site to perform spay and neuters cutting out any additional stress for the cats.



Staff News:

I hired a part time veterinary technician in late August. Melodie VanHouten, LVT, is a 2010 graduate from Baker College of Cadillac Veterinary Technology program. She has worked in veterinary clinics, and worked as a lab instructor in the vet tech program at Baker College. Melodie or as we call her "Mel" has always had an interest in the shelter medicine aspect of veterinary medicine.

At MHS, Mel is in charge of all vaccination and preventative schedules as well as heart-worm and FIV/Feline leukemia testing. She assists Dr. Hamilton in our surgery clinics where they spay or neuter over 30 animals in one day.

We have another new face at MHS. Candace Martin. Candace was hired in October. Candace assists in the daily routine of caring for the many homeless animals. We are excited to have her on board and look forward to working with her!

Robin & Nellie – Happy 3 year anniversary!

Robin Stouffer and Nellie Thompson both celebrate their third year anniversary as MHS employees. Robin was hired in September and Nellie in December. Congratulations Ladies and thank you for your service and dedication to the many animals that we care and advocate for!