



Missaukee HUMANE SOCIETY

SEPTEMBER 2015

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



Betty LeDoulx 1931-2015

Co-Founder, Mentor, Friend
see our tribute to Betty on page 3

SINCE JUNE 1...

ANIMALS CURRENTLY IN THE SHELTER

Dogs 17 • Cats 19
Puppies 0 • Kittens 31

ADOPTIONS

Dogs 18 • Cats 18
Puppies 9 • Kittens 49

INTAKES

Dogs 40 • Cats 19
Puppies 9 • Kittens 81

RETURNED TO OWNER

Dogs 7 • Cats 1
Puppies 0 • Kittens 0

Dear Friends & Supporters,



Fall is just around the corner. We certainly had a busy summer here at the shelter. However, I have to begin with some sad news.

One of our founding members and long-time board members, Betty LeDoulx, passed away August 8, 2015. Betty is survived by her dear husband and MHS President, Ernie, daughter Andrea, along with their beloved Shepherd, "Tonya." Those of us at the shelter remember Betty as the sweetest lady you ever met. Read more about Betty on page 3.

On a positive note, we finally have our surgical light in the clinic. Our veterinarians are very satisfied with it. It is dual-headed and has many angles to position as needed.

This summer we met animals in desperate need of care and medical attention. I warn you, some of the photos are graphic.

An orange tabby male kitten was a stray found on north 7 mile road in northern Missaukee County. The finder warned that his leg was injured.



Nothing prepared us for what we were to discover. As I pulled him out of the carrier he was carried in with, I realized that he was much worse than expected. His leg was hanging by a thread, literally, of skin. Even in extreme pain, he was quick to let you know he enjoyed the stroke of your hand on the back of his head. He was rushed to Meyer Vet within minutes of intake. The leg was successfully amputated.



While under, Dr. Meyer neutered him – at no cost. We do not know what happened, but we suspect some type of leg trap. He is healing very nicely, as you can see, and such a character! He currently has an adoption pending. Would he have had this fate at many

other shelters? Thanks to YOU, he had MHS to restore his body and give him life.

Rescue Waggin' Fundraiser

MHS is in need of its own transportation. With a cargo van, MHS will be able to take more animals to offsite events and ready the call when we have a rescue with multiple animals.



During July and August we saw a rapid increase of kittens. One of those needing special attention, we named "Moses." Abandoned or separated from his mother, he was brought to the shelter. We had a mother cat who had just finished weaning kittens. The surrogate mother loved this little bundle of orange as one of her own, but she did not produce the milk needed for a growing kitten. Hand-fed by workers, he bonded with us. As he grew, it



Moses

was obvious he had some deformities. It is possible his mother knew this and that is why he was left behind. We did not give up on Moses. At 3 weeks old, we discovered he had a severe case of roundworms. He is now on the mend from that

Thanks to you, your donations helped Moses receive the medications needed to treat him.

In late July we received a litter of 8 German Shorthair / Border Collie mix puppies. All male!

Their mother was on her fourth litter. I offered to take all the puppies off the "breeder's" hands and we would pay to have their dog spayed through the clinic. They jumped at the offer. All the puppies came to the shelter when they were weaned at 6 weeks old. After they were vaccinated, one particular puppy started fading. What was causing this puppy to fade? Thanks to our veterinarian's extensive knowledge, we were able to quickly find the cause, an intestinal virus. For several days it was touch and go, but the medications finally did the job. Once he began eating he was on the road to recovery. He was recently adopted, along with one of his brothers, to the same family from Tustin, MI! Congrats Musson family!



Lady



Lady

Another pooch who came to MHS in need was "Lady." We were able to give her the medical attention she needed for her severe flea allergy. She enjoyed the baths (or should I say spa treatments!) from staff and volunteers. Her hair quickly grew back and was adopted by a great family.

Whether it is something as simple as treating fleas or more serious as a leg amputation, the animals that Missaukee Humane Society cares for are given a second chance at LIFE because of YOU! Your donations help so many homeless and unwanted animals in numerous communities. We cannot do this with your help. Please donate today. We need you. They need you.

Memorials

Our thoughts go out to the family of Mrs. Sandy Karr.
Cecil the Lion



Lady

How You Can Help the Missaukee Humane Society

Besides charitable donations there are many other ways you can help the Missaukee Humane Society.

- Stock or real estate. The IRS allows you to deduct the full market value of your assets at the time you make the donation.
- Wills and bequests. By naming Missaukee Humane Society as a beneficiary of your estate your goodwill for animals can go on beyond your lifetime.
- Life Insurance. You can also name Missaukee Humane Society as a full or partial beneficiary of your life insurance policy.
- Trusts. Various trust arrangements enable you to transfer your assets into an irrevocable trust, take advantage of tax deductions, and still allow you to earn income from these assets during your lifetime.

In Memory of Betty LeDoulx

Co-Founder, MHS Board Member, Friend

The Missaukee Humane Society (MHS) staff, volunteers, and fellow board members mourn the loss of longtime board member Betty LeDoulx. Betty helped establish the Missaukee Humane Society with her husband, Ernie. A kind, gentle soul, but a force to be reckoned with when it came to an animal's well-being.

They lived across from the old Missaukee County dog pound was located and they became aware of the cruelty that animals endured by accident. While walking their own dogs in the wooded area across from the facility, they could hear the screaming of dogs in pain. Animals were left in this open enclosure chained to three foot lengths for short periods. The animals were kept from 5 to 7 days then they were killed by whatever means at hand or shipped off to research facilities. Frequently, animals were left to die of exposure to winter weather, since the dog houses were empty of straw and had no water or food.

The Humane Society and it's volunteers worked for many years through foster homes before our actual building was constructed.. Betty would visit the animal control facility where she was told she had to adopt or purchase animals before they would be released. Using her own money, she would make the trip into town to pay the County Treasurer, and return to adopt the animals from the facility. Saving them from a death.

As the construction neared for the current MHS shelter, Betty was right there next to the crew, helping in any way she could.

Betty served as the board Secretary for many years. She would personally write thank you notes and receipts to all the donors. She worked well into the night to assure that everyone was acknowledged and knew how much we appreciated their support. She would always sign 'Missaukee Humane Society' rather than her own name.

We will remember Betty for many wonderful things. Her love of animals and people, her sweet, gentle, and loving soul. We will continue with our mission that we shared for many years with this wonderful lady.

We love you Betty, we will miss you.



"Betty's heart was with the, animals, ALL animals, not just those she called her own. Her dedication saved countless lives."



TWO PAWS UP TO...



Belmont University – Nashville Tennessee – Church Choir Group
"We love Lake City! We can't wait to come back. The animals here totally stole our hearts. Thank you for letting us volunteer. It was a blast!"

Leoni – Exchange student from Germany! Leoni volunteered at MHS for several weeks. She loved the kittens!



To all my animal loving friends.

Dear Friends, much of this newsletter has been dedicated to my dear late wife's memory, but in reality this Humane Society is one of her greatest living legacies. It was Betty's unswerving dedication to helpless animals that led to its formation, and continuation. Even before we had an actual building Betty would adopt unwanted animals at the local animal shelter to save them from a horrific fate. Later once the society had been established, she would spend countless hours sending out personal thank you notes for every donation received, regardless of the amount. It was important to her that you knew gratitude. During the years, your donations and support have continued the work that Betty and I began so many years ago, and it is our hope and prayer that in her memory, you would continue to do so.

It is impossible to even estimate the number of animal lives that Betty personally saved, and she had a hand in even more rescues once the Missaukee Humane Society was established.

While it has continued to be a struggle financially, we have made great strides through the years, with your help! We not only are a no-kill shelter, but we have also been able to establish our own surgical suite, a low cost program to spay and neuter, and many other things too numerous to count. But the mission is not yet accomplished until all animals have a home, so we continue to need your help. Please consider a gift in Betty's name, and continue our progress. Thank you, and God bless each of you.

Ernie LeDoux, Founder & President



McBain Middle School for raising \$690.00 dollars through their Money For Mutts campaign!

Wexford-Missaukee Career Tech Center's Agri-Science class for re-painting our dog kennels! They did a beautiful job! So cheerful!

3rd Spayghetti & No Balls Dinner raised \$1,886 dollars for the shelter! Thank you to all who volunteered, came for dinner, and our bidders for the auction. We plan to host another dinner in November.

MHS in the field

Throughout the summer, MHS was busy conducting Trap Neuter Return's (TNR) in several problem areas with numerous free roaming cats. We successfully spayed and neutered more than 50 cats and returned them to their familiar colonies. We have applied for a grant to expand our TNR services. Stay tuned for updates.

MHS and Dr. Hamilton spayed and neutered a colony of 40+ cats at a Wexford County residence August 28th. Many thanks to the wonderful group, Animal Advocates of Wexford, who helped fund the successful clinic!