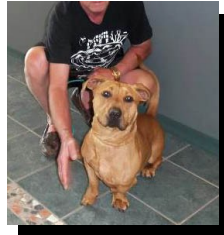




Thanks to YOU 219 Animals Found Homes in 2011



Griz just one of 77 dogs who found a home in 2011

Inside this issue:

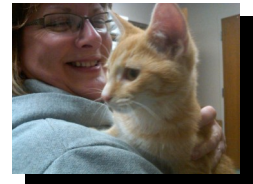
Volunteer News	P. 2	Thanks to the many hours of dedication from our staff and volunteers, a total of 219 animals found their forever homes in 2011—77 dogs, 141 cats and 1 rabbit!
Keeping Pets Warm	P. 2	
President's Message	P. 3	
Pets of the Month	P. 6	Trained adoptions counselors met with everyone interested in

giving a loving home to one of our animals to make sure that the match was a good one. Sometimes things ended up not working out but overall the animals were the winners.

pets at home already we encourage you to bring them in to meet their new "sibling". If you have children we strongly recommend that you bring them to meet the new pet first as well.

At the Humane Society of Allen County it isn't as simple as paying the adoption fee and taking the animal home. There is an application to be filled out first. If you rent your landlord will need to be contacted to make sure it is all right for you to bring your new pet home. If you have

We want you AND your new pet to be happy!



Nacho just one 141 cats who found a home in 2011

Four Ways to Help the HSOAC in 2012

Support Your Shelter

- Volunteer Opportunities
- Become a Member
- Corporate Support
- Virtual Adoption

So, you want to take your commitment to animals one step further in 2012? Whether it was your New Year's resolution, or you're just always looking for new ways to help (Go, you!) read on; here are some things you can do for animals that you may not have considered before.

1. Foster Animals

You already make adoption

your first option when it comes to adding a furry member to your family, but there's another way you can open your home to a pet in need: fostering. Shelters all over the country, including the HSOAC, rely on foster parents to care for animals who aren't quite ready for adoption—usually pregnant moms, mothers with newborn litters, young kittens

and puppies, and recovering sick or injured animals. It's a great way to help save lives without the cost or lifelong commitment of adoption.

2. Citizen Lobbyist

Maybe you're looking for more hands-on ways to fight for animal-friendly legislation. If that's you, consider attending a town hall meeting with your legislator. It's much

Volunteer News

- Helen Miller



Geronimo is a special boy who would LOVE to start the new year with you

Happy New Year!

2011 was a year of positive changes at the Humane Society of Allen County. We saw growth in adoptions, donations and volunteer hours. The truth is that we still have a long way to go. I want 2012 to be a year of transformation for our shelter. More adoptions; more humane education, more donations so that we can add programs that will benefit the homeless animals of Allen County.

How do we accomplish that? The answer is simple.

Volunteer power!

Each volunteer at the shelter has a unique set of skills that can be put to use. Photographers, writers, cleaners, dog walkers, animal socializers, extra sets of hands at special events – the tasks and skills are too numerous to list.

Everyone has a positive purpose and meaning to our shelter animals. If you are the type of person who makes resolutions, resolve to be a volunteer at our shelter. The rewards are many and you can be a part of a huge

positive transition.

Contact us for information on our orientation dates and times. We'd love to have you be a part of our 2012 transformation.



Keep Your Pet Cozy This Winter

Make sure your pet has a warm place to sleep, off the floor and away from all drafts.



Spike is all comfy & cozy

Brrrr—it's cold outside! The following guidelines will help you protect your pets when the mercury dips.

Keep your cat inside. Outdoors, felines can freeze, become lost or be stolen, injured or killed. Cats who are allowed to stray are exposed to infectious diseases, including rabies, from other cats, dogs and wildlife.

During the winter, outdoor cats sometimes sleep under the hoods of cars. When the motor is started, the cat can be injured or killed by the fan belt. If there are outdoor cats in your area, bang loudly on the car hood before starting the engine to give the cat a chance to escape.

Never let your dog off the leash on snow or ice, especially during a snowstorm, dogs can lose their scent and easily become lost. More dogs are lost during the winter than during any other season, so make sure yours always wears ID tags.

Thoroughly wipe off your dog's

legs and stomach when he comes in out of the sleet, snow or ice. He can ingest salt, antifreeze or other potentially dangerous chemicals while licking his paws, and his paw pads may also bleed from snow or encrusted ice.

Never shave your dog down to the skin in winter, as a longer coat will provide more warmth. When you bathe your dog in the colder months, be sure to completely dry him before taking him out for a walk. Own a short-haired breed? Consider getting him a coat or sweater with a high collar or turtleneck with coverage from the base of the tail to the belly. For many dogs, this is regulation winter wear.

Never leave your dog or cat alone in a car during cold weather. A car can act as a refrigerator in the winter, holding in the cold and causing the animal to freeze to death.

Puppies do not tolerate the cold as well as adult dogs, and may be difficult to housebreak during

the winter. If your puppy appears to be sensitive to the weather, you may opt to paper-train him inside. If your dog is sensitive to the cold due to age, illness or breed type, take him outdoors only to relieve himself.

Does your dog spend a lot of time engaged in outdoor activities? Increase his supply of food, particularly protein, to keep him, and his fur, in tip-top shape.

Like coolant, antifreeze is a lethal poison for dogs and cats. Be sure to thoroughly clean up any spills from your vehicle, and consider using products that contain propylene glycol rather than ethylene glycol.

Make sure your companion animal has a warm place to sleep, off the floor and away from all drafts. A cozy dog or cat bed with a warm blanket or pillow is perfect.



Message from the Board President - Michael Ley



As we enter a new year, we are excited and enthusiastic about continuing the incredible success we have had in saving lives and continuing our shelter's mission.

The year 2011 has been the best year we have had in nearly ten years. We have had an increase in adoptions, more spays and neuters, more volunteer hours, more foster hours and as a result, more animals saved. These successes are happening because of your financial investment in our life-saving programs and because of the kindness and compassion toward animals that continues to grow throughout our community.

As we all know, this upcoming

year will bring us new challenges but it will also bring new opportunities for all of us to make a difference in the lives of animals. The Humane Society of Allen County is positioned to meet these challenges. Not only we will continue to grow our core programs, but we will start new programs all designed to help us save and protect precious lives.

In 2012 with your continued support, we will expand our adoption outreach program with more locations for adoptable cats and dogs; increase our spay and neuter programming to proactively decrease pet over-population throughout our community; bring back our Humane Agent program to increase our ability to

investigate incidents of cruelty and neglect and hold people accountable for crimes against animals; grow our foster care program to help the infant, injured, and sick animals; and grow our trap-neuter-return program to help stabilize the enormous free-roaming cat problem in our community!

It is an exciting time for the Humane Society of Allen County. Thank you for being a part of our family and for allowing us to be an advocate for animal welfare in the community. We take our life saving work very seriously and your investment in our mission and our innovative programs will help us continue to be a leader in animal welfare.

Thank you for being a part of our family and for allowing us to be an advocate for animal welfare in the community

Four Ways (Cont. from Page 1)

easier than it might seem: You need only choose a meeting (they're easy to find on your legislators' websites) and then ask a question that lets the lawmaker know you care about animals.

3. Beyond Dog-Walking

We love our volunteers! But before you sign up to walk dogs, take a look at your own special skills and talents, and consider how you might put them to use for animals. Check out the volunteer news column in this issue for more ideas.

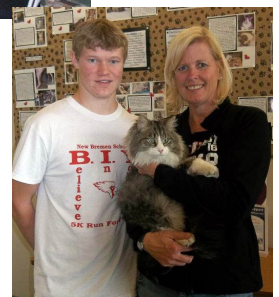
4. Friend of the Ferals

If you've seen feral cats in your neighborhood and felt concerned for their well-being, consider making 2012 the year you help improve their lives. Feral cats live outdoors, and their lives are difficult and often short. But you can help reduce feral cat suffering by getting involved and helping the HSOAC start a Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) program. TNR means we trap feral cats, spay or neuter them, and then return them to their environment. It ensures the cats don't reproduce, preventing more feral felines and guaranteeing the existing ones enough space, food and shelter to go around.

Even if none of these ideas sound appealing there's ALWAYS something you can do to help support the Humane Society of Allen County: membership, virtual adoption, matching gifts from your company and yes, brushing and walking the dogs.

See YOU in 2012!!

2011 Adoption Gallery



Humane Society of Allen County

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Lisa Harding, Treasurer
Jan Klopp
Lisa Mason
Ryan Reker

HSOAC Staff:

Alicia Phillips, Operations Manager
Megan McCoy, Vet Technician
Michelle Breitigan, Animal Care Technician
Joyelle Spain, Animal Care Technician

We're on the Web!

www.hsoac.org



www.Facebook.com/HSOAC

Unconditional Love is Waiting for You!

Adoption Hours:

Thursday..... 3:00—7:00 p.m.

Saturday..... 12:00 Noon—4:30 p.m.



Don't forget to vote online in the Shelter Challenge at The Animal Rescue Site: <http://www.theanimalrescuesite.com> Our shelter pets could win this round's grand prize of \$5,000!



Pets of the Month — Annie & Smiley Nubbins



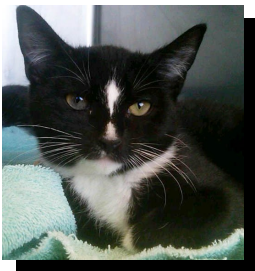
Each issue we feature two of our fabulous shelter pets, one dog and one cat.

Smiley Nubbins

Little Smiley has an interesting name and a story that could have had a sad ending.

The little darling came to us with a nasty tail injury, perhaps from a dog. Quick treatment by Dr. Babbitt resulted in an amputation that has left just a little "nubbin" of a tail (and a bald butt!).

We aren't sure if the fur on this kitten's backside will ever grow back completely but this little kitten will make you smile. Won't you consider giving this little one a home?

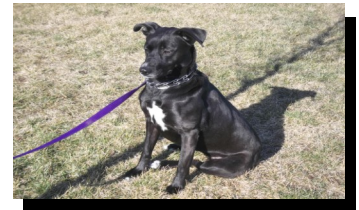


Smiley Nubbins

Annie

Sweet Annie is a very special girl who has had a tough time. She suffers anxiety from being kept in a kennel all day at the shelter and gets over excited when people visit. So you may not see her when you visit, but just ask and one of our great volunteers or staff members will introduce you!

Annie has been to obedience school and has earned her Canine Good Citizen certification. She needs to be an only fur-kid (no other pets or small children) in a patient and loving home. She will need a lot of reassurance and love but we know the right person is out there for her. Could it be you?



Annie