

## Small, but Mightily Determined



*When he first arrived, no one could be certain that Fess would make it.*

Little Fess, a small terrier mix, had nearly given up by the time he was found as a stray. Obviously suffering from pain, Fess could not walk or stand, his hind legs laying flat behind him. It was suspected that he had been hit by a car and now was in critical condition.

Fess was rushed to our shelter for immediate veterinary care. Our veterinary team worked quickly to stabilize him, as he had become listless and alarmingly quiet. His eyes could barely stay open. He refused all food and water offered to him, and his fur was matted and dirty. No one could be certain that he would make it.

Pain-relieving medications and IV fluids helped to make Fess more comfortable and gain some strength prior to undergoing x-rays to determine the extent of his injuries. Fess was found to have a small fracture to his pelvis that, with delicate care, time, and attention, would heal without surgical intervention.

With consistent pain-relieving medications and occasional IV fluids, Fess began to drink water and eat small meals of special high-calorie food. He eventually gained some strength and mobility, but still had to take things slow. Brightness returned to Fess's eyes, and we were hopeful for his future!

In order to provide him with around-the-clock care while his injury healed, we knew that Fess would be happiest with a foster family. That's when Fess met the Parker family! With lots of time on their hands due to the coronavirus pandemic, the young family was eager to foster and warmly welcomed Fess into their home. Everyone was excited to help him recover!

Early on, Fess couldn't jump, use stairs, or walk well, so the family would carry him around, even handfeeding him to ensure that he was getting enough nutrition. He also spent many days resting and relaxing with his new human siblings, who made sure that he was never in need of companionship. Each day, Fess was getting stronger and walking a bit more. Eventually, after a month in foster care, Fess was healed and able to play with the two family dogs. He was even running in the yard! Fess would soon be available for adoption.

The Parker family had other plans though. After reflecting on all the trauma that Fess had endured, they decided that Fess wouldn't have to search for his forever family—he had already found them! They were dedicated to ensuring that Fess would always be loved, cared for, and happy as a member of their family.

Today, Fess loves racing around his fenced-in yard and playing with his family. The Parkers share, "He's a fun, playful, family dog. It's hard to believe after all he has been through that he still has so much trust and confidence. Dogs are truly amazing. We are lucky and happy to be part of his second chance!"



*Today, Fess is healthy, happy, and adopted!*



*Fess loves his two canine siblings, Jax and Ripley!*

## Mission

The Humane Society of Summit County (HSSC) cares and advocates for the abused, neglected, and abandoned animals of our community. Through education and support, we strengthen the bond between people and animals.

## Location

7996 Darrow Road • Suite 30  
Twinsburg, Ohio

## Contact Us

(330) 487-0333  
info@summithumane.org

## Learn More

summithumane.org

## Adoption

Visit [summithumane.org/adopt](https://summithumane.org/adopt) for up-to-date information regarding our adoption process.

## Board

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President/CEO

# A Letter from our President/CEO

This year has been a challenge for us all. At the Humane Society of Summit County, we have continued to keep our doors open for animals in need and ensure they are provided the lifesaving care and second chances they deserve. If we've learned anything these past several months, it's that, like the animals we serve, we are strong and resolute. We are adaptable. We find hope and possibility in difficult situations. Abandoned and abused pets don't know that there is a public health crisis, they just know that they are homeless, scared, or hurting.

While our work looks a little different on the surface, underneath we are guided by the same mission and vision for a safe community for animals. We are only able to be a refuge for pets in need—in good times and times of crisis—through the support of our community. Thank you for your dedication and generosity that saves lives and empowers this work—no matter what comes our way.

With gratitude,



Diane Johnson-Owens

## Remember the Animals in Your Year-End Giving

The holidays are an important time to support causes that are dear to you, and we hope you will consider making a gift to the animals! In addition to a traditional donation, here are some ways you can support HSSC.

### HONORARY GIFTS

Need a gift idea for the pet-lover in your life? Make a donation in their honor to HSSC! Visit [summithumane.org/givenow](https://summithumane.org/givenow) and make your gift in "honor" of a friend or family member. We will send a letter to notify them of the gift you made.

### GIFTS OF STOCK

A direct transfer of stock may give you an immediate deduction and save capital gains tax if the shares have appreciated—all while providing the greatest possible benefit to animals at HSSC! Transfer deadlines for the 2020 tax year are in early December. Ask your financial advisor for details and to initiate your gift!

### IRA MINIMUM REQUIRED DISTRIBUTION

If you are 70½ or older, you may take advantage of a simple way to lower your tax burden. Up to \$100,000 may be donated from your IRA to HSSC with no tax on the income.

### CARES ACT TAX SAVINGS

The CARES Act (passed in April) provides a universal "above-the-line" deduction on up to \$300 in gifts made by anyone who takes the standard deduction. This will reduce your taxable income for 2020.

Please contact Louise DiLullo, Director of Development, at (234) 212-9749 or [ldilullo@summithumane.org](mailto:ldilullo@summithumane.org) for more information.

# ADOPTER PROFILE: Nancy and Tom Crump

In 2016, Nancy and her son visited HSSC in search of a new canine companion. Nancy's then-fiancé Tom also tagged along, although he was not enthused with the idea of adopting a dog, especially, as he remarked, a pit bull terrier. Yet the moment Tom met Prada, a pit bull terrier mix who had been overlooked by other adopters for two years, he was smitten. From then on, Panda (as she is now called) had a family to call all her own, and she fit right in!

During the beginning of the coronavirus pandemic, Nancy was again drawn back to our organization. Our available dogs needed foster families, and Nancy knew in her heart that her family could help. Tom, again, was reluctant about the prospect of adding another dog to the family, but after considering Nancy's rebuttal, he softened and agreed to serve as a temporary foster family.

They soon welcomed Ryker, a young playful pit bull terrier mix, to their family, but things did not remain temporary for long. Nancy recounts, "Ryker, of course, immediately loved my husband, Tom, and vice versa, and we decided to adopt him!" Ryker and Panda complement each other's personalities and the family is now complete!



*Nancy and Tom can't imagine their lives without Panda and Ryker!*



## FOREVER HOMES



### Save the Date! 2021 Events

#### Bow Wow Bingo

Friday, March 5  
6pm-9pm  
St. George Family Center  
Fairlawn

#### Bark in the Park

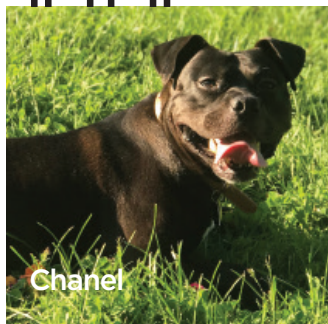
Saturday, May 8  
11am-3pm  
Lock 3 Park  
Akron

#### Putts for Pets

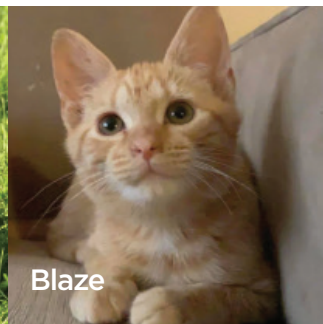
Monday, July 12  
12pm-6pm  
Silver Lake Country Club  
Silver Lake

#### Pawsibility Ball

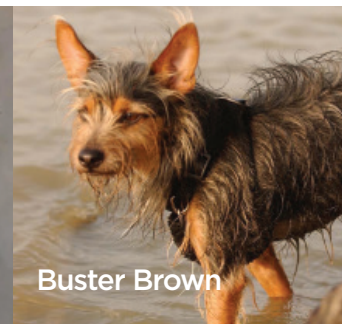
Saturday, August 28  
6pm-10pm  
Hilton Akron/Fairlawn  
Fairlawn



Chanel



Blaze



Buster Brown



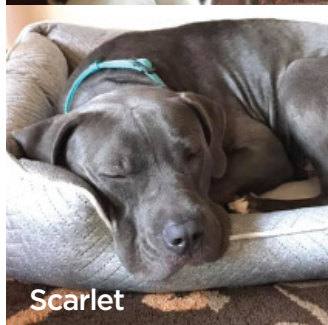
Tuxedo



Kace



Mattius



Scarlet



Wallace



Zoey



## A Purrfect Match

Recently widowed and a new resident at an assisted living facility, Janet was in search of a furry companion to join her in her new surroundings. Janet had also longed for a cat for more than 20 years, so a new friend was long overdue.

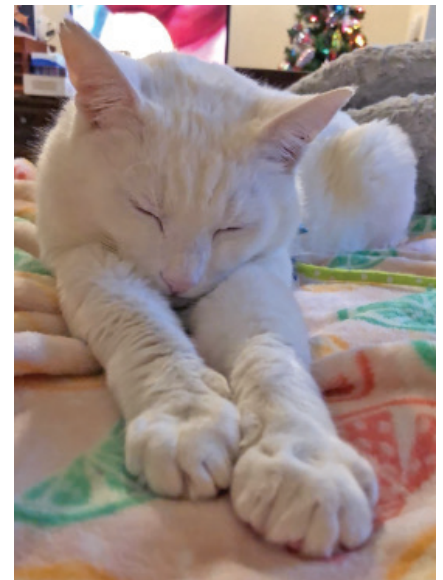
The day after moving into her new home, Janet and her daughter visited our shelter with the hopes of finding just the right cat—that just so happened to be Sunny Boy! With his calm and affectionate demeanor, Sunny Boy instantly won over Janet’s heart. That was it. Sunny Boy was going home with Janet!

Janet’s daughter shared with us what happened later that day: “Once we got to my mom’s room, we opened the carrier and waited for Sunny Boy to come out. He jumped out of the box, wandered around the room for a bit, checking out his new home. Then, he decided to jump up

into the recliner where my mom was sitting and make himself comfortable right next to her. He sat with her for the next three hours!”

She continues, “Having adopted Sunny Boy gave mom a new sense of purpose! He has become the reason she wakes up in the morning, gives her unconditional love, greets her when she comes back from meals, and meows for treats because she’s spoiled him so! Mom was very reluctant to move into an assisted living facility, but the saving grace has been Sunny Boy!”

It’s safe to say that they both rescued each other and are truly the purrfect match!



## Coming Soon: Mobile Veterinary Clinic



In the coming year, HSSC will proudly launch a new public veterinary services program that will provide low-cost spay/neuter, vaccinations, and microchips to pets throughout Summit County through a state-of-the-art Mobile Veterinary Clinic.

The new program will reduce economic and geographic barriers to veterinary care for pet owners, helping to make our entire community a safer, healthier place for pets and the people who care for them!

**HSSC’s future Mobile Veterinary Clinic has been made possible by a generous grant from the Cynthia Parker Matthews Family Foundation.**

## WISH LIST

- Hot dogs
- Bleach (Clorox brand or 5.25% sodium hypochlorite)
- Laundry detergent (High Efficiency liquid only)
- Disposable latex gloves
- Paper towels
- Dog and cat toys
- Treats
- 4-6 foot nylon dog leashes