# Wagging Tales HUMANE SOCIETY OF SUMMIT COUNTY



**FALL** 2017

# HUMANE OFFICERS TO THE RESCUE

Rescuing victims of animal cruelty, healing their wounds and spirits, and finding them loving homes through adoption is the important and rewarding work of the Humane Society of Summit County.

We employ two full-time Humane Officers to enforce the laws to rescue and protect abused, abandoned, and neglected animals. Their work is demanding and often heartbreaking with nearly 900 cruelty cases each year.

Our Humane Officers investigate reports of animals without proper food, shelter, or water to large scale animal hoarding cases. They work tirelessly to bring animals to safety, prosecute offenders, and prevent future violations through education and support.

Pets like Bruce, pictured here, are rescued by HSSC every day. Following a call from a concerned citizen, Bruce was found by our Humane Officers in deplorable conditions and in need of immediate help. Bruce had been left to live outside tethered to a heavy chain and given only a discarded truck cap as shelter from the elements. Bruce's body and spirit, neglected and forgotten, had become weak. He was underweight, dehydrated, and covered in dirt and dust. The light had left his eyes.

Our Humane Officers cited his owner for animal cruelty violations and brought Bruce to the shelter. Bruce may not have realized it then, but from that moment, his suffering was over.

At HSSC, Bruce transformed into a happy, healthy dog with just two months of veterinary care and attention from staff and volunteers. He gained nearly 20 pounds, his coat became shiny, and he began to trust people once again.

Like thousands of other animals rescued and rehabilitated by HSSC, Bruce found his happily ever after! In June, Bruce was adopted by a wonderful couple and their Great Dane. He has since adjusted very well to his new life as a member of a loving family.

The Humane Society of Summit County is dedicated to fulfilling our mission and ending the suffering of our community's animals. As a nonprofit animal rescue organization, our success is dependent on the generosity of our community. Please join us in serving animals like Bruce and finding them the loving families they deserve. By becoming a partner in our lifesaving mission through a generous gift, YOU can make new beginnings possible!





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# **DID YOU KNOW?**

In situations of animal cruelty offenses, our Humane Officers have the full legal authority to collect evidence, seize animals, perform arrests, and file criminal charges against offenders.



#### LOCATION

7996 Darrow Rd. Twinsburg, Ohio

#### **CONTACT US**

(330) 487-0333 info@summithumane.org

#### **LEARN MORE**

www.summithumane.org

#### **ADOPTION HOURS**

Monday: Closed Tuesday-Friday: 1pm – 7pm Saturday: 10am – 6pm Sunday: 12pm – 5pm

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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# **FOREVER HOME PHOTOS**



LOLA Surrendered by owners Adopted April 18, 2017



PRINCESS BELLA Rescued as sick stray Adopted June 18, 2017



LUCCA Rescued by Humane Officers Adopted June 24, 2017



DEWEY Abandoned Adopted June 18, 2017



HECTOR Abandoned Adopted April 30, 2017



NALA Rescued as sick stray Adopted June 8, 2017



PRINCE CHARMING
Rescued by Humane Officers
Adopted February 16, 2017



RICO Abandoned Adopted March 17, 2017



AUSTIN
Rescued by Humane Officers
Adopted June 6, 2017

# **DID YOU KNOW?**

Our rescued pets are finding their new families faster than ever! In just the first half of 2017, nearly 800 dogs, cats, and small animals were adopted from HSSC – that's a 35% increase from last year!

# **NEW! PETS FOR VETS**

In support of the armed forces, the Humane Society of Summit County is now offering 25% off of adoption fees for our veterans and active military personnel everyday!

Animal companionship has been clinically shown to have significant psychological, physiological, and social benefits. It is our hope that by encouraging pet adoption at HSSC, we

can not only honor and support our military community, but also find our deserving animals fantastic homes!

More information can be found on our website at www.summithumane.org/pets4vets.



## RECORD-BREAKING KITTEN SEASON

While we rescue, heal, and adopt a wide variety of companion animals, we serve far more cats and kittens than any other kind of pet. In just the first six months of this year, HSSC rescued nearly 700 felines – surpassing last year's numbers by over 33%!

With our resources stretched to the limit, our generous community rallied to assist us in any way possible. Supply donations and monetary gifts were essential in providing lifesaving veterinary care, nourishing formula and food, and warm bedding blankets. Over 20 families joined our feline foster program, volunteering their time, space, and compassion to diligently care for kittens and nursing mothers until they were ready for adoption. Interested adopters flocked to our shelter and opened their hearts and homes to hundreds of kittens and cats!

We are so thankful for the unwavering support of the cat lovers in our community!

# JOIN US IN CELEBRATION!



**50** YEARS 1968 - 2018

#### HSSC's 50th Anniversary is almost here, and it's about time to celebrate!

Save the date below and be sure to join us for a wonderful, family-friendly afternoon of games, a barbecue picnic, adoptable pets, and cake on Saturday, July 14, 2018, from 3pm to 6pm. More details to come!

Akron FOP Lodge 2610 Ley Dr, Akron

# PETS, PLEDGES, AND A PARADE OF POOCHES AT BARK IN THE PARK 2017!

On May 6th, we hosted our annual pledge walk fundraising event at Springfield Lake Park - Bark in the Park! Community members, sponsors, vendors, and pledge walkers enjoyed a fun Saturday afternoon filled with dogs of all varieties, unique pet-related shopping, delicious food, and fun activities. Donations and sponsorships from Bark in the Park directly support our lifesaving mission to rescue Summit County's animals in need! Thank you for helping us make second chances possible!

Don't miss out on next year's Bark in the Park – we have a BIG surprise in store!

Congratulations and gratitude to our Bark in the Park 2017 Top Fundraisers:

CORPORATE TEAM: Montrose Auto Group
COMMUNITY TEAM: HSSC Board of Directors

INDIVIDUAL FUNDRAISER: Karen Schofield







## IT'S PLAYTIME AT HSSC!

Inspired by the success of the national program "Dogs Playing for Life!", we have begun to integrate canine playgroups into our enrichment activities! While our staff and dedicated volunteers spend a great deal of time walking and playing with our dogs each day, our dogs love playing with each other too! Remarkably, it has been shown that the physical exercise and mental stimulation gained from just 30 minutes of playgroup time is equivalent to a two hour walk. Following a playgroup session, dogs are less stressed, tend to exhibit calmer behavior in their kennels, and even have a higher potential to learn during training – all helping our dogs find their new homes faster!

# SPACIOUS REFUGE HELPS SHY CATS

This year, HSSC added two new areas in our cat room for several of our cats to coexist outside of traditional enclosures. The refuges provide our more nervous and shy cats with ample space to relax and adjust to the new noises and happenings in the shelter. These special cats gain a better sense of privacy and security, helping them show their true selves to interested adopters!

We welcome you to visit our shelter to see all of our recent improvements and to meet all of our adoptable animals!



# **DID YOU KNOW?**

Approximately 80% of our rescued pets arrive unaltered. An essential step in solving pet overpopulation, every dog, cat, and most critters are spayed or neutered before adoption!

#### MISSION

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.

#### VISION

Create a community where animals are treated humanely.

#### SUPPORT HSSC!

- **Volunteer** Donate your time, talents, and compassion to help animals in need! Visit <a href="www.summithumane.org/Volunteers">www.summithumane.org/Volunteers</a> to sign up and learn about available opportunities.
- Donate As a nonprofit animal rescue organization, we rely
  directly upon the support of our community. Help us save lives!
  Visit our website at <a href="www.summithumane.org/Donate">www.summithumane.org/Donate</a> or send
  your gift in the enclosed envelope.