



#### UNION COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY

Issue No. 8 Dec. 2013

719 Hickory Star Road P.O. Box 625 Maynardville TN 37807

Phone: 865-992-7969

### Also in this issue:

Where would they be?

Feral Cat Problem

Ride Like an Animal

New UCHS Calendar

Winter Wood Needed

onthly Donating Program

**Golf Tourney Growing** 

Cat Cottage Repairs



# 'Tis the Season for Giving

You can give of yourself, your time, and your donations. All are gratefully appreciated.



Union County has cats...lots of cats. On average over 850 unwanted cats and their litters come through our doors each year. Half are surrendered by their owners and half are strays. While we have an active transport and adoption program for dogs to other shelters, no such program is available for cats. Sadly almost every community in America has an overabundance of cats. An overpopulation of both feral and free roaming cats can create an unhealthy environment for both animals and humans. The Union County Humane Society (UCHS) wants to address this issue and there are several ways YOU CAN HELP.

Purchase a humane live trap from distributors like Tractor Supply or Farmer's Coop to use or to donate to the shelter.

Many of you may have feral and free roaming cats in your neighborhood that you or your neighbors feed occasionally. By trapping, financing the spay/neuter procedure (\$35) and then releasing the animal, we can collectively begin reducing the feral cat population. This is called a "Trap, Neuter and Release" program (or TNR) and would work wonders in our community.

In addition, UCHS will continue to work closely with organizations like "Feral Feline Friends" and "Alley Cat Allies" who mentor and promote TNR programs in communities to reduce and maintain healthy cat populations.

Another way to decrease the feral cat population is for cat owners to abide by the "Fix at 4"rule which means to spay/ neuter their companion kittens at 4 months of age. Believe it or not, kittens can have kittens!

For more information, call the Humane Society at 992-7969. For more detailed information please visit the Alley Cat Allies web site.



#### **UCHS Golf Tourney Growing!**

The 2013 golf tournament to benefit the Union County Humane Society (UCHS) doubled this year with nearly 50 golfers participating in the match at Three Ridges Golf Course on August 23<sup>rd</sup>. While a fairly violent thunderstorm drove several teams off the course after 11 holes, the remaining golfers were undaunted and finished the tournament in the sunshine. The winning team, shooting a 55 (17 under par!!) included (from left) Brad Hawkins, Will Wright, Lee Hitchens and Cody Johnson. The Closest to the Pin contest was won by Rich Ler ming and Brad Dye boasted the Longest Drive.



Volunteers from the shelter (Alexis Browning and Wendy Smythe) arrived to charm golfers with three canine cuties that are available for adoption. UCHS would like to thank everyone who participated and supported the event. That includes our lead sponsors Frank Buchanan, Buddy Warwick, Jeff Warwick and Ray Varner Ford, as well as committee members Shorty Meyers and Sylvia O'Malley. Thanks also to our event day volunteers, Lori Clark, Becky Fretwell, Jen Rugg, Annie Grau and Zena Worship. If you would like to be notified about next year's tournament, please contact the Humane Society and ask to be included on their email and mailing list.



### They Got Their Motors Runnin'.....

Over 71 bikes and 108 riders converged on the Union County Humane Society Saturday, October 5th to attend the 7th annual "Ride



like an Animal" motorcycle run. Stellar weather, bike enthusiasts and animal lovers made for a very successful event that raised over \$6,000 for the shelter. The route that took riders over Clinch Mountain and through winding rural roads of East Tennessee, finished at Li'l Joes in Maynardville where riders enjoyed outstanding barbeque, cold drinks, prizes and entertainment provided by Wayne Burnette and his local blue grass friends. The Humane Society is extremely grateful to all the sponsors, supporters and volunteers who made this event possible. We extend a special thanks to Linda McKinnis, Ed

Schot and Suzanne and Rick Branson who spear-headed the event. Remember to mark your calendars for next year's ride: The First Saturday in October!!

# \$ Provide Kindness to Our Animals Year 'Round!

Did you know you could have an ongoing, monthly impact on our shelter, without even writing a check!?

All you need to do is arrange with your bank to have a set amount transferred from your account to the shelter's account at FSG Bank. Instead of making one or two donations during the year, you can spread your contributions out over 12 months and perhaps consider making a larger gift.

One donor explained: "I'm having my bank take out a specific amount each month and transferring it directly into the shelter's account. That way, I can make a more substantial annual contribution, but spread out the payments over the course of the year. I don't have to write a check or address an envelope and the shelter can anticipate my contribution monthly!"

If you'd like to become a monthly friend to our animals, please call the shelter for more information at 865-992-7969.

#### Wood for the Winter Needed Drop off week days 9am to 4pm at Shelter



#### A generous donation from Sanford Rubenstein will be used to fix up the Cat Cottage.



#### It's going to be a nice Christmas for the cats.

Our dormitory cat resident concept, which has receive high praise from both shelter experts and cat

lovers, will start to undergo some updating and repairs. Shelter volunteers are making ready to install a new tile floor, cabinets, new lighting and repair screens. If you would like to help please call the shelter.



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Non-profit
Permit No. 625
Maynardville TN
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HAPPY NEW YEAR Coming Soon 2014 Calendar hopefully in time for Christmas - Only \$15. each! Featuring, Union County Humane Society animals - all of whom have been adopted to loving, forever homes. Check our website for release date!

# Where would they be without us and without you?

It is easy to feel overwhelmed at times by the numerous appeals for donations that come your way. We would like for you to know how much your continued support of UCHS means in the lives of a few special cases we have encountered over the past few months.

July 6, 2013 - 5 dogs and 1 cat rescued from deplorable conditions. All animals were infested with fleas and cockroaches. Each received necessary veterinary care including heartworm testing, flea/tick control, deworming and vaccinations. The animals were held until court proceedings took place in September when the owner pleaded guilty to animal neglect and we were granted custody. The last animal was recently adopted out on October 10.

August 18- A stray Pointer mix dog was brought in with a plastic zip tie around his testicles. They were extremely swollen and excruciatingly painful. He received emergency surgery to remove the tie, a neuter procedure and the necessary follow up veterinary care. Always friendly and forgiving, "Lee" was adopted through our pet placement transport program in Michigan in September when he was united with a loving family.

August 18- A stray young female German Shepard dog was brought in with half of her right foot missing. With exposed bones and badly mangled flesh, "Tara" also required extensive surgeries (2) to save her foot and ultimately her life. Under the direction of Dr. Hutchison, our staff worked for several days making sure the wound was bandaged and clean. She is now healed and

ready for her forever home.



Tara's foot is healed and she wants to thank you

## Where would they be today without us? Without YOU?

Your support IS truly making a difference in the lives of MANY animals here in Union County.

We are forever grateful.

Tammy [UCHS Executive Director]