

FRIENDS



Union County Humane Society

Issue 17

| December 2019

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2020 Events

- Annual Fundraising Dinner – April 18
- Motorcycle Ride – Sept 12
- Yard Sale – October 5-6



A special recognition is given to our friend and shelter volunteer, Linda (Hundley) Branum, who lost her short battle with cancer on September 25, 2019.

Her enthusiastic spirit could not be ignored when she was seeking support for our shelter.

All the love you gave to our shelter animals is waiting for you at Rainbow Bridge. We miss you, Linda!

Annual Fundraising Dinner

Our annual fundraising dinner was held on April 13. Bill Lea, our guest speaker, is best known for photography of black bears, the Great Smoky Mountains, and the Florida Everglades. His long-held passion is capturing



photography subjects in “just the right light.” Bill has authored three coffee-table books and co-authored others. His most popular book, *Cades Cove – Window to a Secret World*, is in its fourth printing and his newest book, *The Everglades – Where Wonders Only Whisper*, is now available. Photographing black bears for more than two decades has provided Bill with extraordinary opportunities to learn about bears, as well as to educate others to dispel the many myths and untruths about bears. Bill certainly educated the audience on bear behavior and shared many beautiful photographs of these important animals to our ecosystem.

Sponsors this year included Cross Connection Plumbing Services, Fountain City Finance, Kay & Jess Jones, Kelly’s Deli, The Kitten Finishing School, Loyston Road Quarry, 33 Quarry, David McCollough State Farm, K. David Myers, Seven Springs Farm & Winery, and William & Cornelia Von Schipmann. Martin Shafer provided his expertise and humor to lead the bidders through our live auction.

Our extreme gratitude goes to our sponsors, table hosts, and donators. Your generosity has helped change the lives of our many surrendered and abandoned animals.

If you are interested in sponsoring, hosting a table, or attending our 2020 Annual Fundraising dinner on April 18, please call us at 865-992-7969 or email us at uchhs.org@gmail.com.

2019 Fundraising Raffle



On August 24, 2019, we held our first cash raffle fundraising event. Cash prizes totaled \$5,000. Thank you to everyone who bought tickets and made this a successful fundraiser. Congratulations to the winners: Nancy Cain, Charlie Hurley, Jubal Jackson, Janet Holloway, Jonnie Surret, Danny Ferrell, John Kerr and Joseph Hurley. Even though we did not meet our goal of selling 1,000 tickets, it was a successful event and we are planning to hold another fundraising raffle in 2020—stay tuned for more details. The money raised has been put to good use on much needed maintenance—converting our lights to LED, air conditioning unit repair, and water line replacement. We are still hoping to outfit the inside of our “new to us” van by insulating the walls and floors, adding an HVAC unit on the top and putting a logo wrap on the outside. Thank you for your continued support.

Fostering Those Too Young for Adoption

We have a limited number of approved individuals we call on to provide fostering of kittens and puppies who are too young for adoption. Ages range from a few days old to 8 weeks old. In 2019, 89 puppies from 19 litters were fostered by one Puppy Foster Momma Extraordinaire. One of the most interesting fostering observations was with the litter of heeler puppies who changed from white to red and blue (see photos to the right).

Through November 2019, we received more than 1,900 animals. Of those, more than 158 puppies and 206 kittens were less than 7 weeks old. This has been a very hectic year for all.

While preventing unwanted puppy and kitten litters by spaying and neutering is our ultimate goal, we thank the owners who keep litters with their mothers until weaned (at least 8 weeks) before surrendering them to the shelter. Early weaning has a number of negative effects on kittens and puppies—aggression, ability to speak dog/cat language, bite inhibition, shyness, training and discipline difficulties, and separation anxiety, to name a few.



*Just a reminder that the Union County Humane Society is a non-profit, 501c(3) organization, open-admission shelter which is not county owned. This means we accept **ALL** animals from Union and surrounding counties that come to our door – whether dog, cat, bird, turtle, or other species; old or young; sick, injured, or healthy.*

NO APPOINTMENT is necessary to surrender your pet or a stray animal. Our business hours are 10am – 4pm, Monday through Saturday.

NO FEE is required to surrender an animal; although donations are greatly appreciated to help us continue this service.

Bella – the Quirky Bulldog



In July 2019, a pitifully injured dog, Bella, was brought to our shelter. She suffered wounds inflicted by her owner who ran over her with a vehicle and failed to seek proper medical treatment. In addition to her wounds, she also had a large mass on her belly. Our veterinarian, Dr. Carson Hutchison, performed three surgeries on Bella to remove the mango-sized mass and clean and suture her wounds, including the two-inch laceration on her head that had exposed her skull.

Bella remained at the shelter for nearly four months while recuperating. Many of us came to love the quirkiness of this English Bulldog. She had her favorite toys (including squeaky pig), never passed up a butt rub, loved to chase the resident rooster, misbehaved every chance she got, and always expected her dehydrated lamb lung treat when she pottied outside.

At the end of October, Bella went to Smoky Mountain Bulldog Rescue where she is awaiting her new home. She does well with other dogs and cats, loves to play, and is a precious joy. You may email them at mdecuir@utk.edu if you are interested in adopting Bella or learning more about the Rescue.



2019 Ride Like an Animal

Our annual motorcycle ride was held on September 14, 2019 starting at the shelter and ending at Bubba Brews – on a beautiful, albeit hot and sunny day. More than 70 bikes joined the ride this year. We had police escorts in the front and back of the line of riders as well as a support vehicle. Only one bike had to use the support trailer as its drive belt failed within miles of finishing the ride.

Sponsors of this year's ride included the Ashley Nephews, The Kitten Finishing School, Kay & Jess Jones, Fountain City Finance, Rowland Veterinary Services, Dennis Hall Auto Services, Kelly's Deli, Ralph & Sue Shick, Tanasi Grafix, Butler Plumbing Services, Crossroads Firearms, and Bubba Brews.

Thank You to all our sponsors, riders, and law enforcement officers for another successful ride!





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Maynardville, TN 37807-0625

Non-Profit
Permit No. 625
Maynardville, TN
37807

Return Service Requested



MERRY CHRISTMAS
Happy New Year

Farewell to a Special Friend



A sad good-bye to Decker, a Boxer mix who came to us in 2010 at the age of 8 weeks and near death. He was nursed back to health by Judy Paidousis with a steady diet of scrambled eggs and tender love. When he was ready for adoption, Don and Angel Kelley gave him a forever home. Decker looked forward to

his Friday night pizza and continued his love for scrambled eggs. Decker succumbed to Cushing's disease on November 26, 2019.

"... what we have enjoyed, we can never lose ... all that we love deeply becomes a part of us" — Helen Keller

Contact Us

Come visit or give us a call for more information on our pets for adoption, our spay-neuter-vaccine services, and volunteer opportunities. We are open 10am – 4pm, Monday through Saturday.

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Visit us on the web at:
www.UnionCountyHumaneSociety.org