Paw Prints

Humane Society of Greene County
187 Bellbrook Ave. Xenia, OH 45385
Humanesocietygreenecounty.com
(937) 376-3001

Summer/Fall 2026

From the President: We are very grateful to those who donate to us and, besides monetary, we can always use pet food and cat litter for our pantry. The pantry is for low-income county residents, many of whom come in monthly for supplemental food and some who only come in on occasion when they may need a little extra help to get through the month. If you want to drop off food or litter at our office, the best time is any Saturday between 10 am and noon. Also, our efforts to curb pet over-population continue to be successful with over 600 dogs and cats spayed or neutered (S/N) so far this year. Just a reminder, we are not part of the county government and receive no funding from them or any of the national level animal organizations. We depend on donations and, as a small non profit, every dollar counts and is used towards helping the animals in Greene County have a better quality of life. My heartfelt thanks for your support! .....***Cindie McCulloch***

According to the American Veterinary Medical Association there are 56 million households in the U.S. with dogs and 43 million with cats and, while vet care can be costly, annual wellness checks are vital to your pet's health. Dental care is an important part of those checks and cannot be ignored. Watch for warning signs in dogs and consult a veterinarian if you notice bad breath, drooling, difficulty chewing, red/swollen gums or loose teeth. Some dental care can be done at home by brushing your dog's teeth using a soft-bristled brush and pet-safe enzymatic toothpaste like Virbac or Arm & Hammer. **Never use human toothpaste**, as ingredients like xylitol are highly toxic to dogs. You can also try alternatives like dental chews, water additives or gels and treats & food that carry the VOHC (Veterinary Oral Health Council) seal indicating they are effective at reducing plaque and tartar.

We know cats are notorious for hiding pain so if they exhibit any of the above symptoms, and especially if they are pawing at their mouth, please take them to see a vet. At home, you can try some type of oral care cat food or treats and even dental wipes, if kitty will put up with it. Tooth resorption is incredibly common in pets and it is very painful. It affects an estimated 20-60% of all cats by the age of three and roughly 40% of dogs by the time they are six. If you do not have a regular veterinarian, reach out to the Veterinarian Preventative Care (VPC) clinic in Beavercreek at **vpcclinics.com** or 937-872-3868. SICSA also offers a wellness checks for those who qualify. Check out their website at **sicsa.org/wellness-clinic** or call for vet services at 937-965-8590.

And, concerning your pets' teeth, did you know kittens and puppies are born without them? They start to develop them around 3-4 weeks and kittens will lose their baby teeth at 3-4 months. They should have their adult teeth, usually 30 of them, by 6-7 months. Puppies are similar and will have about 42 permanent teeth by 6 months. What happens to those baby teeth when they come out? Well, they are so small that the animals swallow them but they are easily digestible so – no problem.

Our monthly cat clinic is a large part of our S/N efforts. Anyone residing in Greene County, **regardless of income**, can bring in **outside** cats to be fixed for only $20 for males and $25 for females. We also offer some vaccines at low cost. You must call to register for the clinic, which is held the second Saturday of every month. This program is not intended for indoor cats and the cats that come through the clinic will be ear tipped so everyone can easily see they have already been fixed. S/N has health and behavioral benefits as well as giving these outdoor kitties a better quality of life, like these two pictured prior to being neutered, who came through a previous clinic and were then taken in by a local business. 11,373 cats have been through the clinics since starting them in 2006 and we are grateful to our veterinarian and volunteers who work at them.

We are fortunate to have received several grants from the Ohio Pet Fund that we used to help low-income pet owners get their dog or cat S/N. The next time you purchase a license plate, please consider getting a Pets Ohio plate. You can get one on-line or at your local DMV and the profits received from the sales go to Ohio non profits committed to helping save animals and give them a better quality of life. There are many styles to choose from and it's a very worthy cause.

Water is important year-round, but your pets and livestock will drink more in the hot summer months. Outside, plastic bowls work best for dogs and cats since metal bowls can get extremely hot. Even in cold weather months, fresh water is vital for your animals' health. Snow doesn't replace the need for water so when the freezing temperatures come, check out the local farm stores for heated bowls if you have outside animals.

When you adopt an animal from the Greene County Animal Shelter your new pet has already been S/N, micro-chipped, wormed and is current on most shots. If you get a dog, a license is also included. You will pay an adoption fee but it is well worth the money **plus** you get a great companion and the lucky dog or cat gets a forever home. Besides the pets pictured below, there are more to see at greenecountyohio.gov/113/Adoptions or you can visit the shelter at 641 Dayton Xenia Road in Xenia.

Sarge

Pepsi

Sunkist

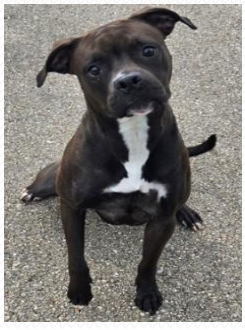
Snap

Dreamsicle

Flower

Maximus

Po


Liberty

Zorro

We are honored to have been chosen to receive donations in memory of:

- **Shirley Lang Barber** from Bob & Ann Williams and Betty & Galen Jordan
- **Dorothy Bordewisch** from Charlotta J. Ewers
- **Susan Honeyman** from Robert Stewart and Theresa Check
- **Norman Lee Stamper** from Anita Burns
- Pets: **Sawyer, Faith and Laddy** from Theodore J. Binzer, DVM

You can donate securely on our website: humanesocietygreenecounty.com

Name: _____ Street Address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

Annual Membership Payment: $25 Annual Patron: $100 Donation: _____

Make checks payable to: Humane Society of Greene County or HSGC P.O. Box 51 Xenia, OH 45385

HSGC is a 501(c)3 non profit. All donations tax deductible. ***We do not share your contact information.***