

Summer/Fall 2024

From the President: So far this year, 769 cats and dogs have been spayed or neutered (S/N) through both our regular program and our monthly S/N cat clinics. Our regular program is intended for low to mid-level income residents who pay a fee to us and receive a certificate to a participating veterinarian office for S/N at a reduced rate. Our monthly cat clinics have no income requirements and are available to any Greene County resident caring for outside or feral (wild) cats. The cost is only \$15 for males and \$20 for females. A grand total of 10,602 cats have been S/N at these clinics since we started them in 2006, preventing an untold number of kittens left to fend for themselves. At the clinic, the cats have one ear tipped so they are easily recognized as one that has been “fixed”. Feral cats generally have a shorter lifespan than house cats with some studies claiming they live about two or three years on average. However, feral cats that are sterilized, vaccinated, and well fed can live 7-10 years or longer. Plus, the quality of life for a sterilized cat is much better than those that are not. We appreciate every pet owner who takes the time and makes the effort to get their pet fixed as well as those who bring in outside cats to the clinic to help us control the pet population.**Cindie McCulloch**

An emotional reunion occurred in March when a local resident brought in a stray cat to be S/N at our monthly clinic. We scan the kitties to see if they are chipped prior to surgery and found one that had indeed been chipped. We were able to locate the owner and reunite her with her lost cat that same day. “Esko” had been missing since last September and the family didn’t think they would ever see her again. Needless to say, it was an emotional reunion when Mom and daughter came to pick her up. A few tears were shed by all and we are so grateful that we were able to get Esko back home where she belongs.



The Reunion



Safe at home

Three actions made this possible. The owner had her cat chipped and the monitoring was still active, a very kind person took the time and made the effort to trap Esko and bring her to the clinic and, finally, two of our volunteers had previously bought the scanner to use at the clinic. Esko had been missing for nearly eight months and was found several miles from home so this is such a wonderful example of why microchipping your pet can be successful in reuniting lost cats or dogs with their families.

The author of this newsletter had a somewhat frightening experience recently when her cat appeared to be choking. It turned out fine but, since it’s always best to be prepared, here are two links that you might want to take a look at in case this ever happens to you. Each link takes you through steps, along with illustrations, on what to do in the event your cat or dog appears to be choking. <https://www.wikihow.com/Save-a-Choking-Cat> and <https://www.wikihow.com/Save-a-Choking-Dog>. If your pet seems to be prone to choking, consult your veterinarian to see if there might be other health issues involved.

Quick Tips: Many of these have appeared in previous newsletters but are worth repeating:

- As your pets age, it’s a good idea to elevate their food and water bowls so it is easier for them to use.
- Cat’s whiskers are extremely sensitive so wide bowls or plates are less likely to irritate them.
- Water is vital year round. If outside, plastic bowls may be the best in summer since metal bowls retain heat.
- Besides food and water, shelter is required for **all animals** living outside. The Ohio Revised Code Chapter 959 details the minimal requirements for animal care in our state and is easily accessed on-line.
- An average size horse will eat about 20lbs of food a day and drink at least 8 gallons of water. They also need hoof maintenance every 6-8 weeks, so make sure you can afford to properly care for a horse before getting one.
- Have an emergency pet kit handy in case you need to evacuate your home. Have a pet carrier or leash and collar nearby and include food, medicine and a photo of you **with your pet** in case you are separated.

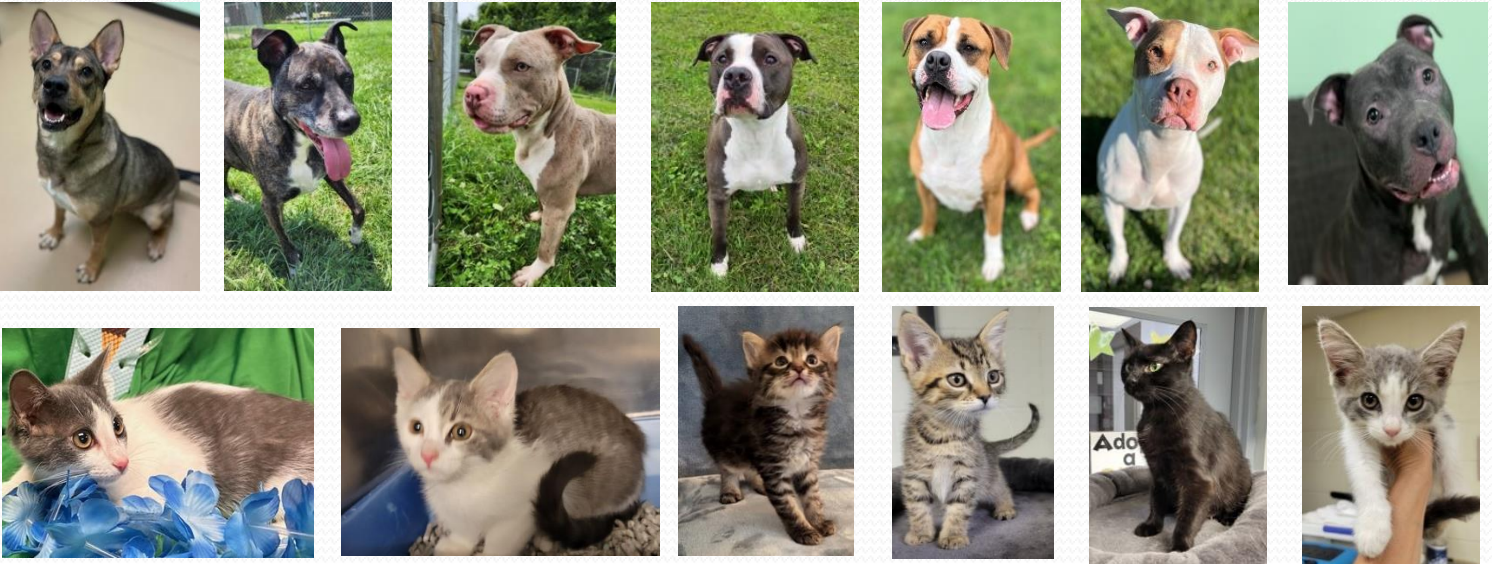


Special thanks to the Trebein Elementary 5th grade “Wolf Pack” for choosing the Humane Society to receive the proceeds collected during their donation drive. The students, shown on the right, delivered cat and dog food, as well as additional pet supplies, to our office and we are very appreciative of their generosity.



Shawnee Elementary students held a penny drive and collected \$166.57. That’s 16,657 pennies to be exact and we are so pleased they have donated this money to the Humane Society. It will certainly help to fill our pet food pantry and we are grateful!

Looking for a new addition to your family? Visit the Greene County Animal Shelter in Xenia and adopt one of the great animals who are waiting for a loving and forever home. Just look at these adorable faces!!



Top from left: Dory, Harley Elle, Goose, Kayla, Walleye and Pelican **Bottom from left:** Jenny, Gretchen, Giggles, Troy, Annabelle, and Jenna. The Greene County Animal Shelter is at 641 Dayton Xenia Road in Xenia. View animals available for adoption at: greenecountyohio.gov/113/Adoptions or call them at 937-562-7400.

Due to increased bulk mail prices, we are now using first class mail and only sending printed newsletters to recurring donors and veterinarians we work with. The money we save will be used for our other programs. The newsletter can be accessed at humanesocietygreenecounty.com You can also donate online by using the QR code on the right.



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

- Dr. Harold Brown** from Joan Hammond
- Susan Honeyman** from Robert Stewart and Theresa Check
- Gary Goldenbogen** from Chelle Kakac

- Kathy Brennan** from Charlotta Ewers
- Rae Lyn Metz** from Jane Powell
- Diana** from Dolores and Philip Frederick

Pets: **Maggie, Harley and Alpha** from Theodore Binzer, DVM; **Bella** from Philip and Dolores Frederck

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.***