When I share with people what I do for a living, I am always met with one of two replies...

The first, “Oh my gosh! You get to play with puppies and kittens all day! How fun!”
The second, “Awwww. I don’t know how you do it. I feel so badly for animals in shelters.”

I normally chuckle at the first, as I wish my day was consumed with puppy antics and kitten cuddles. And when I hear the second, I immediately think of the animals in our care and am warmed with the thoughts that come forward; Images of volunteers walking the dogs on our beautiful trails, cats and kittens bounding around the adoption room with toys strewn everywhere, animals that have never known the comfort of human touch that are experiencing compassion for the first time, matted animals being relieved of the mess that consumed them for so long. While our facility isn’t a forever home, we are protection, warmth, love, food and shelter. Every one of us, from staff, volunteers and veterinarians to adopters and supporters, play a role in their journey to a forever home, and that role is incredibly gratifying!

- To all of you who make FOREVER possible, thank you! -
Ten Years Ago...

By Nancy Bender
Photos by Carolyn Kramer

Come November, a full decade will have gone by since the levy, Issue 12, was passed by Butler County voters; it paved the way for the Princeton Road shelter to be built. For everyone involved, the exhilaration remains very much alive in the memory of the grass-roots campaign. It was a mission fueled by dire necessity and compassion for the shelter animals. Unstoppable and determined sums it up.

In 2009, the shelter opened its doors, a victory for all - most especially for the animals! The difference was night and day, witnessed immediately in happier, more comfortable animals. The tears could not be helped, collective tears of relief and joy. The day had finally arrived!

Since then, Animal Friends has had more to celebrate including a brand new, spacious PetMobile and the addition of their hugely successful Community Cat TNR Program. Most worthy of celebrating is the abundance of good that has come from the public, primarily through the increase in pet adoptions! Please do not underestimate the difference adoptions make. As wonderful as the shelter is, it is NOT a forever home. Nothing thrills the staff and volunteers more than seeing the animals get adopted. Nothing, absolutely nothing, is better for the animals than a loving forever home!

Hope ultimately lies within the community. AFHS is immensely grateful for all those who adopt, those who volunteer and those who donate. We simply could not do it without your help.

Thank you, Butler County, for voting ‘yes’ and for your continued support of the animals!

Be a voice for the animals... if you witness animal neglect, cruelty or abuse, report it to the proper authorities!
**Great Adoption Success Stories**

**Ozzy**
This is our Ozzy. We just adopted him Wednesday and he's so sweet. Thanks!  
- Kecia (7/16)

**Honey**
We adopted Honey from Animal Friends last weekend and have fallen in love with her! Here she is snuggling with my daughter on the couch on a lazy Saturday morning!  
- Tracee (7/16)

**Blue**
Back in April, my parents adopted Blue from Animal Friends Humane Society. Look how much he’s grown!  
- Catherine (6/16)

**Mister**
Mister says hello and he is doing really well. My other dog Happy was adopted from there and they get along really well. Mister is a great dog and definitely has his forever home.  
- Kim (8/16)

**Autumn**
We adopted Autumn about a year and a half ago. Today is her second birthday! Her name at that time was “Bo”. She loves to hide in the play tunnels and attack me when I walk by.  
- Steve (6/16)

**Oscar & Bella**
Oscar and Bella (both adopted from AFHS) saw our Facebook plea for bleach yesterday and stopped by to drop some off to us! How awesome is that?!! A big THANKS to their dad for driving them out here to support us.  
- AFHS (6/16)
The success of the shelter’s annual birthday party is measured by all the smiles, the fun being shared and in large part, by the number of pet adoptions. August 13th was a great day for AFHS as 19 dogs and 20 cats found their forever homes! The sight of the long line of potential adopters is always reason enough to celebrate!

An added surprise for the staff and volunteers was a return visit from a former long-time volunteer, Sean Daughtridge. Now residing in Chicago, Sean humbly refers to Animal Friends Humane Society as his forever home. After lots of hugs and catching up, Sean was back in his volunteer role helping with the crowds of paw-ty attendees. It was so great to see him and have his help throughout the day!

Many thanks to all of the great vendors, DJ Rick with All The Rave DJ & Photo Booths, Pizzeria Vitale, Flub’s Ice Cream, Affordable Pet Grooming (for bathing the dogs!) and the Butler County Sheriff K-9 Department. These wonderful supporters contributed to the thousands of dollars we raised for the homeless animals of Butler County. Thank you and congratulations to everyone who adopted!

The animals will ALWAYS be counting on you...
Thank you to our Sponsors
Jaylene Warner

Jaylene has been a part of the Animal Friends Humane Society Volunteer Family for 2 years. She is a dedicated volunteer who spends most of her time in our surgery clinic. This is a very important volunteer role that many may not know about. Jaylene helps clean cages, move animals back to their kennels after surgery, mops floors and helps us prepare for the next day of surgery. We are very thankful to have Jaylene on our team!

“I have been a volunteer at Animal Friends since September 2014. I volunteer in the Surgery Center where I have the pleasure of working closely with Susan and Haniah, and of course the docs. My greatest pleasure in volunteering at Animal Friends is the constant unconditional love that I get from the many dogs and cats that we take care of, as well as the abundance of licks and kisses. We have 2 sons, ages 18 and 21. We spent 5 wonderful years living in Shanghai, China (2008-2013). While there, we rescued and fostered dogs, working with 1 of the local animal rescue organizations. We have 2 dogs, Toby and Ginger. Since volunteering at Animal Friends, we have adopted 2 senior aged dogs from Animal Friends. My interests include spending quality time with family and friends, reading a good book, working out at the gym, outdoor activities and of course - spending time with our furry friends.”

Patty (continued...)

and building anything from garden decorations to shelves. My dogs are always with me. I enjoy spending time with the dogs at the shelter and delight in watching them play, and rubbing their bellies and getting kisses. I love to be there when they find that perfect family. I also am glad that I am part of a group of volunteers that hold animals so dearly in their hearts.”

Patty Sankner

Patty Sankner has been a part of the Animal Friends Humane Society Volunteer Family for 2 years. She is a dedicated volunteer who is always willing to help in any way we need: bathing dogs, walking dogs or helping with the laundry. Patty is a great volunteer! We are so grateful to have Patty as a volunteer and look forward to having her as part of our volunteer program for many years to come!

“I adopted my first dog from the Trenton facility in 1998. I began just dropping off items from the wish list when I had the extra money and I would go out and walk the dogs periodically. I became more involved over the last 6 or so years by donating on a more regular basis through the “Operations Feed Campaign” and organizing the “Rock Fur the Paws” benefit, with all the proceeds going to AFHS. The last two years I have had the pleasure of helping with the Bark ’n’ Pur Ball. I have met some AMAZING people who work or volunteer for AFHS and their dedication and determination are exemplary and it’s been a pleasure working with them.”

Laine Tarter

Laine Tarter has been an official part of the Animal Friends Humane Society Volunteer Family since September of 2013. She is a dedicated volunteer for the Fundraising Committee and brings to light that the need is not always walking the dogs or socializing the cats, but sometimes it’s in development. We are so grateful to have Laine as a volunteer and look forward to having her as part of our volunteer program for many years to come!

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Jennifer Goris

Jennifer Goris has been a part of the Animal Friends Humane Society Volunteer Family since October 2014. She has logged almost 30 hours since becoming a volunteer and consistently volunteers every week with our furry friends! We are so grateful to have Jennifer as a volunteer and look forward to having her as part of our volunteer program for many years to come! Please Read what Jennifer has to say about volunteering at AFHS:

“I’ve always been an animal lover. I think a pet completes a family. My husband and I have 2 cats, Bob and Mayzie, and 2 dogs, Luther and Doc (an AFHS alum). A few months ago, my husband asked me why I like going to the shelter to walk dogs so much, even in the rain and snow. I think it is because they are so grateful for the love and attention we give them. Since I can’t take them all home, I can help make their days happier with petting, hugs and exercise while they wait for their forever family to come. Also, it’s a great feeling to see an animal go home with a good family knowing we helped make their life a little more comfortable in the meantime. Animal Friends has wonderful, dedicated people, both staff and volunteers, who are devoted to caring for the animals and making the shelter a quality facility. They have taught me so much and I am happy to call many of them friends. I intend to be part of Animal Friends for a very long time!”

Patty (continued...)

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IN MEMORY OF ........ DONATED BY

Boxer, Belle. .............. Joan Crane
Bandit and Turti ........... Derek Conklin
Gigi Echols ................ Carl & Betty Echols

Mayzie ................ Judy Van Niman
Meanie .................. Dorothy Collins
Mary Louise Prow ................ Theodor & Laurie Hensley, Geraldine Ebsom, John & Leslie (Buisuis) Kriebidel, Holly Schultheis, Kent & Kay (Buisuis) Imhoff
Robert Wieland ............... Janet Wily, Donald Crisit & Betty Becker, Helmut Wolfeam, Florence & Joce Finke, Mrs. Georganna Hendren
Bill Finchum ............ Darwin Alcain, Birdie, Brenna, Karen, Siana, Becky and Janet Wondall
Special cat, Tropicana .......... Linda Martin and Jeff Cameron
Cathy Stahl .................... James Hasshult
Thomas Steitz ............... Lois Shoemaker
Virginia Burns ............ Dean and Sara Porter
Lori Barnes ................. Dr. Susan stephen, Lisa & Bryan Hollrook, Nancy & Denise, Donna Kaufman
Sweet Cody ................. Nancy & Denise, Lark and Tony ......... Jan and Frank Vabci
Mary Boyer ............... Susanne Dunkleberger, Frances Stang
Mary Martha Circle .......... Frances Stang
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Lance ................. Allegra Broun
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Marlene Gallo ............... Heather Demmer
Peppi ........................ Anthony Cate
Biscuit ........................ Dick and Ervena Weingartner
B Clark ........................ Emma Mehl
Muffin ................................ Monte Wheeler
Thelma Chandler ........... Daughter, Melanie
Rose Ann Post .............. Dr. & Mrs. Kevin Myers & family, Patty Gifford, Anne McAdams, Alagro Brown, Norma Dananf, Mary Ann Sanders, Carol Belling, Ron & Kathy Morgan, Elizabeth Mannix
Stuff and Dutches ......... Carol and J.B. Little
Jacob’s bozer, Vernon .......... Mrs. Karen Whalen
Beloved cat, Sweetie ......... John and Louise Gough
Raymond Dawson ......... Douglas & Janice Hingsbergen, Janet Beyer, Melvin & Marilyn Hingsbergen, Patricia Roberts, Mrs. Eugene Tuley, Michael Moscut & family, Susan & Matt Wessel & John, Cincinnati Museum Center
Alice ............................ Anonymous donation for Kathy Bruce McDaniel ........................ Sandra McDaniel
Bill Yaw ........................ Sandra McDaniel
Marg Miller .............. Suzanne Dalumey
Andre Nemitz ............. Terri Hogan
Loren Botsford, Jr. .......... Dean & Judith Peterson, Patricia Deblasi, Kiser Family, Kevin Carnahan
Ally ....................... Teresa Davis
Cats: Pumpkins, Grumlin, Cuddles. Socks, Callie, Tuxedo .............. Dianne Thomas
Ian McIca .................. Jane Flohckycz
Mackey and Bragewhy - two brave laddies & fer ever friends of Sally Kocher & Teresa Mcgovan .. Phyllis Kadle
Winston ....................... Mrs. Lois Hinsibow
Niki .......................... Tim and Diane Meeks

The oldest, largest, non-profit animal adoption agency in Butler County, Ohio
Our Humane Society was established in 1952...
www.animalfriendshs.org

SHELTER HOURS: Mon-Tues-Fri-Sat-Sun...11-4:30 • Wed-Thurs...1-7 pm

The oldest, largest, non-profit animal adoption agency in Butler County, Ohio
Our mission is to promote humane principles, to protect lost, homeless, abandoned and mistreated animals, and act as advocates for animals in our communities.

Our Humane Society was established in 1952...

Check Out Upcoming Events: www.animalfriendshs.org
K9 Odin becomes the newest officer for Middletown Division of Police

- Middletown Division of Police -

Handled by Sgt. Andy Warrick, K9 Odin is a Certified Narcotic Detection Dog who was donated to the department by Animal Friends Humane Society in November 2015. He graduated from the Police K9 Academy January 25, 2016 and is excelling in his new role!

Middletown Fire Department adds K9 to its crew
Dog being trained to investigate arson

- Middletown Firefighters Local 336 -

Meet Scottie, a 6 month old Lab Retriever mix donated to the Middletown Division of Fire from Animal Friends Humane Society. He is learning basic obedience now, and after that he will be trained to be an Accelerant Detection Dog/Arson K9.

Scottie is named in remembrance of Fallen Firefighter Scott Bruggeman.