After spending 250 days in the shelter watching dog after dog leave with their new families, today was finally Jedi’s day to be ADOPTED!! We are beyond excited for Jedi and his new mom. Happy Gotcha Day, Jedi!

Shi Shi is pictured with his new family. Congrats to their new family members! Have a wonderful life, Shi Shi!

Congratulations! Mikey Thomas is Butler County’s #1 Doggie!...see pg 2
Melissa decided to bid on Spay/neuter and adopt, Bolt.

Bobby

Cincinnati

DVM Diplomate ACVS

Susanna Schwartz, Hamilton

Nancy Nichting

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Be a voice for the animals... if you witness animal neglect, cruelty or abuse, report it to the proper authorities!
Dear Friends,

This may be one of the toughest emails I have had to write. After nine and a half wonderful years with Animal Friends Humane Society, it is time for me to say goodbye. I have accepted a new position and my last day with Animal Friends will be February 17th. I am so blessed to have had the opportunity to work with you all. I am humbled by your dedication, compassion, support and generosity. You have helped us transform the lives of thousands upon thousands of animals, and I am so grateful for the opportunity to have gotten to know each one of you. I wish time would have allowed for me to have individual conversations with you all, but I know how quickly the next two and a half weeks will pass by.

Thank you for being a vital part of this team. I will miss you all, and I wish nothing but the best for this incredible organization. I know Animal Friends will continue to do great things for the animals in our community.

With gratitude,
- Meg

Rick Fox and Meg pass the torch to Interim Director & Operations Manager, Tara Bowser, who will be running the shelter while we are looking for a new Director.

Thank you Tara!
**Milky**

I know you all see some horrible and sad situations involving pets being abandoned, hurt, sick and rejected... so I wanted to send you a quick email to THANK YOU for all you do within our county. We adopted our sweet boy over 3 years ago from you and love him so incredibly much. His addition has been such a blessing to our family and we are so grateful for your facility!! He fills our home with laughter day in and day out with his big personality. Just know even with all the sadness you see each day, you are certainly creating more happy endings then you will ever know for all these animals! I can’t remember what you named our cat there, but here is our “Milky” (our 3 year-old named him).

Our HUGE 23 lb boy with a personality to fit his size! Lol!  

- Amanda

**Luna**

ADOPTION UPDATE... from Luna, the 8-week-old Goldendoodle. We were so excited when we found the perfect home for the Holidays for this sweet pup. A big THANKS to her family for choosing adoption.

**Ellie**

I adopted Ellie from Animal Friends a little over a year ago (she was Kansas at the shelter) and just thought you guys might like an update. She loves hiking and camping with my family - her favorite place is the dog park! Thank you so much for everything you guys did to take care of her and find her a new loving home! I always tell people who are looking for pets to check out Animal Friends first.  

- Kaylie

**Alan**

ADOPTION UPDATE: We have fostered many dogs over the years and was able to adopt them out. But this guy we kept. We even kept his silly name Alan.  

- Kelly
Every year, Animal Friends’ largest annual fundraiser seems to get bigger and better - don’t ask me how - it just does!

And when it falls on St. Patrick’s Day it always seems to take this super fun event up another notch! Maybe it is the ‘green beer’ - the ‘green outfits’ - and plenty of ‘GREEN’ made for the animals that pass through AFHS on their way to their special forever home! The event always seems to fly by with so many fun activities and games and friend ‘reunions’ from past Bark’n’Purr Balls. It’s always fun to see ‘first-timers’ with their eyes wide open when they see all of the wonderful items to bid on!

Of course, every great event just ‘happens’ - YEAH!!! We don’t realize that every day of the year fundraisers are constantly watching for perfect Bark’n’Purr goodies. The AFHS Fundraising Committee turns their ideas into an over-the-top reality year after year to benefit the animals. This extremely hard-working group of volunteers are what make the Bark’n’Purr the yearly success it has become! Next year’s event is scheduled for March 16th.

Sincere thanks to all of our very generous donors and volunteers who make the “Bark’n’Purr” a very special event!

There were big winners at our “Lucky 13th” Bark’n’Purr... and of course, the biggest winners are the animals who end up with the greatest gift of all - their very own Forever Home...
Opie and Jesse are two of the many Animal Friends Humane Society cats adopted at the Kitty Brew Cat Cafe in Mason. We are so excited for this new opportunity to showcase our adoptable feline friends. Stop by and pay them a visit. We will have adoptable feline friends on site along with other rescues.
Thanks Nancy!

Nancy Bender’s time here with us was far too short. In October of 2017 this world lost one of the most extraordinary people I have ever met. The pain of this loss will be lessened however, by the unforgettable memories we have and share of Nancy’s life and love.

Beyond the memories I will cherish, Nancy has taught me invaluable lessons that I will carry with me throughout the rest of my life.

• The true meaning of Compassion. Nancy was a giver, a care-taker, a listener, and a provider. She also was extremely passionate. Passion for animal welfare and passion for Animal Friends. She had a way with words. Many of you have read pieces written by Nancy. We were privileged to share her gift with others through her stories and articles featured in “Animal Tales”, our organization’s Newsletter. Her passion was undeniably present in the words she shared.

• Strength amidst daunting circumstance. Nancy was such an incredibly tough person. Such a fighter. She overcame so much and I am inspired by her unwavering might.

• Selflessness. Nancy would put others always before herself, no matter what.

• Positivity. In every photo you will ever see of Nancy, her smile radiates through it. Her positive energy was palpable, and it was impossible to be in her presence and not feel it.

• Live in the moment, and dance like nobody’s watching!

I am so thankful to have had known and loved this beautiful soul. I look forward to a dance when we see each other again...

- Meg Stephenson