

Humane Happenings

Elmbrook Humane Society proudly serving the animals and residents of Waukesha County and beyond since 1964.



A Note from our Executive Director

Little did I know that attending a Fall fundraiser for a partner of our organization in 2016 would forever change my life. Seated next to me was an outgoing, kind, funny, animal advocate, devoted husband and father that within hours, I developed a connection with (I found his wife to be pretty darn amazing, too). I mean they were at an animal welfare function and had adopted their dog from Elmbrook Humane Society (EBHS), how could I not not be incredibly fond of them?

I spoke of him and his wife my entire drive home and could not wait to find a way in which to involve both in our organization as well as get to know them better.

Soon thereafter, Jason joined our Board of Directors filling our Treasurer role and Kelly became a part of our Paws for a Cause Committee (formerly Spring Gala Committee). In addition, their children became avid EBHS supporters attending events and holding their birthday parties to benefit our organization. They were always willing to raise their hand and help and genuinely enjoyed being a part of anything they could be. And, they all became friends of mine as well as EBHS.

In May 2018, Jason was diagnosed with brain cancer. I, like so many others, were shocked, scared for all of them, wondering what we could do to help. I am certain Jason, Kelly, and their children were, too. But, you would never know it. Instead, they all had the most uplifting, positive outlook. They were ready to fight this and win. Fight, they did!

They did not take for granted one single day – making sure to enjoy time together, taking vacations instead of finding reasons not to, spending time with family and friends, bringing laughter

to anyone in their presence, and reminding us all that life is a gift and you never know what tomorrow holds.

From the time of his diagnosis, Jason and his family did not let cancer define who he was or the life they would continue to live. He taught many of us just how precious life is, to fight for what you believe in, to not let challenges get in the way of your goals and desires. He taught us to be light hearted, to smile and laugh as much as possible, to surround yourself with like-minded people, and to be kind to those who are not kind in return as you never know what they are facing. To tell and show those you care about – human and animal – how much you love them every day, multiple times a day.

Jason left all of us on January 15, far too soon. He will be forever missed. The gifts he left will remain with us for eternity. Jason, thank you for being a part of our lives.

I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank everyone - board members, volunteers, donors, and animal advocates - for all you do for EBHS and the animals we serve. And, I would like to think that Jason would join me in saying that whatever you do, make sure you enjoy it with a beloved pet by your side.

Heather

Board of Directors

James Broughton
President

Interim Treasurer

Jennifer Kovacich
Vice President

Kelsey Lorenz
Secretary

Joe Donovan
Past President

Nishant Deshpande

Laura Landergott

Kim Preston



Happy Tails

The only thing more rewarding than seeing an animal find the perfect family is receiving a letter, note, or e-mail confirming that love at first sight has turned into the real thing and that this animal is thriving in their new home. If you want to share your happy "tail," e-mail us a photo and your story to happytails@ebhs.org.



Luna (formerly Jacks) adopted by Lily

As soon as she got home I knew that she was a very special pup, she is now a PTSD service dog in training! She loves her new pack and is often found wrestling with her

brother Kai every morning out in the snow. It honestly feels like I'm living with an angel dog, thank you guys so much for bringing us together.



Sweetie (formerly Seven) adopted by Asja

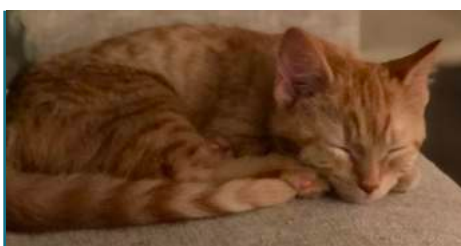
She enjoys sleeping in her hammock and spends her time relocating her toys from one level to another.

She is usually waiting for me each morning for her breakfast, and most nights she gets to run around the bedroom. She loves raspberries, blueberries, broccoli, leafy greens and the occasional piece of pizza crust or cooked noodle. She has been such a joy.



Zillah adopted by Susi

Zillah enjoys watching the birds on her balcony and sleeps next to me each night. Zillah is doing great!



Fuego (formerly Eddie) adopted by Lisa

Fuego is doing great, he loves to climb on the counters and is so playful! He is the perfect kitten for our family, we love him so much!



Sunny adopted by Ellen

He loves to go on long hikes in the bluffs! Sunny is a big ball of energy, and everyone says he is the funniest little thing. I couldn't agree more! At the end

of the day, he likes to curl up on my lap and fall asleep.



Snickers adopted by Macy

Snickers has settled into his new home. He loves his lettuce and carrots and is being spoiled.

2020 Paws for a Cause Dinner & Auction

To keep our donors, volunteers, and staff safe during this COVID-19 pandemic, our 2020 Paws for a Cause Dinner & Auction was cancelled. We would like to take this opportunity to share a HUGE shout out to our sponsors, donors, attendees, and all those who supported this event, and continue to help us during this unprecedented time. We look forward to seeing everyone at next year's event on Saturday, March 20, 2021, at the Milwaukee Marriott West.

Thank you to our sponsors for their support!



Shelter Animal Updates



Hooch - Adopted 09/23/2019



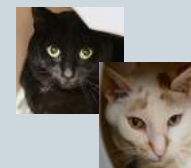
Sangria - Adopted 02/06/2020



Grayson - Adopted 08/13/2019



Hansel & Gretel - Adopted 09/11/2019



Gryphon & Benson - Adopted 10/22/2019



Rebel - Adopted 08/22/2019

Legacy Giving...

Provide Funds Today and Into the Future

If you're like most people, you give to causes you care about. However, many people struggle between giving today and legacy giving.

That's not the case with Joyce Cerami. An annual donor, she also felt compelled to include Elmbrook Humane Society (EBHS) in her estate planning. *"Years ago, my mother's cat was turned into Elmbrook Humane Society," she shares. "I quickly responded and picked him up. I remain eternally grateful for their rescue. I was grateful there was a place in the area that cared for animals enough to provide immediate shelter."*

By giving a legacy gift as Joyce did, you can help ensure that EBHS will continue to provide shelter for homeless animals, promote the human-animal bond, and prevent animal cruelty and neglect far into the future.

"I like to think that my support will enable treatment for many helpless, needy animals that present needing specialized, perhaps costly care. I so love the fact that Elmbrook is a No Kill shelter. Not all shelters provide this loving safety for animals, and I feel so fortunate to have this caring place available," she added.

Fortunately, we offer many ways to share with EBHS, both today and tomorrow. Many share what they can today, and also share their estate and assets when they no longer need them. *"I am proud to say that I support Elmbrook Humane Society and I am only too happy to include them in my estate planning. And I know that after I am gone, I can still continue to help," concludes Joyce.*

To learn more about leaving *Your Legacy* at Elmbrook Humane Society, contact the Director of Philanthropy at 262-288-0628 or dawn@ebhs.org today.



Thank You from the bottom of our hearts!

Please join us in thanking the following individuals and businesses for their support of the shelter. A shout out to all those who organized events, spent their allowance money, or simply brought in items off our wish list:

Acosta Sales & Marketing



Grace & Olivia



Hailey and the Flame Rays Cheer Team



Seoul



Special thanks to just a few of our friends who contributed to the enrichment of our animals:

Cornerstone One



Nature Hill Intermediate School's 8th grade Science class



Thrivent



Hats off to:

Stickman Painting Studio
for holding a Paint Your Pet night fundraiser for EBHS!



Teri & Taylor
who came in for their yearly 'sponsor an animal' donation!



Humane Education Highlights

“Be Kind” is a phrase popping up all over social media, t-shirts, and even coffee mugs. It’s wonderful to see the popularity of such a simple yet powerful message.

Psychologists agree that empathy is the most important factor to a person’s moral development, and it is widely believed that compassion must be learned at a very young age. Humane Education encourages an understanding of the need for compassion and respect for people, animals, and the environment and recognizing the interdependence of all living things. The kindness that a young person demonstrates towards animals can transcend to caring about others, people different from them, and even the world as a whole.

Humane Education programs create opportunities for youth to connect with animals as they learn about their behavior and needs and how to alleviate their suffering. The notion that animals can think and feel pain is a concept that can be taught to the very youngest child through stories, games, activities, and interactions with animals.

We offer a wide range of opportunities for young people to visit the shelter to explore their interest in and love for animals. Our Kindness Camps - which are offered in Spring, Summer, and Winter - as well as our monthly Kindness Clubs, provide the unique opportunity for youth to explore the human-animal bond through behind-the-scenes shelter experiences, enrichment activities, games, crafts, and team building.

We are committed to supporting our local schools through humane education. These include classroom programs which explore topics like being kind to animals and how people of all ages can help animals in our community. In our READ to Me program, students have the opportunity to read to a Certified Therapy Dog, which builds confidence in their reading skills and cooperation in the classroom as they enjoy the special incentive of a canine visitor.

Our popular Scout meetings allow youth to earn badges as they learn more about creating a better world for animals. Children’s Birthday Parties offer a unique way to celebrate their special day by supporting the shelter.



Staff Spotlight



Heather Gehrke
Executive Director

What did you want to be when you grew up?

An accountant or veterinarian. Given I learned I do not do well with seeing internal body parts, do not really enjoy sitting at a desk all day, and thrive on variety in my work, the role I have seems to be a fantastic compromise!

Who are your pets?

I have had many over the years though right now, Nora and Shila, both adopted Siberian Huskies.

What are your hobbies/interests outside of work?

Quiet time doing just about anything though I tend to gravitate towards house and yard work, walking my dogs, and spending time with loved ones. I also enjoy volunteering with both my girls as a pet therapy team for EBHS.

Why do you enjoy leading the charge at EBHS?

The commitment by all involved with our organization to secure the necessary resources to always try and exhaust every option available to help both animals and people. I also genuinely enjoy working alongside our staff, volunteers, and Board of Directors.

We are proud to offer numerous enriching programs that capture a young person’s interest in animals and fosters the message of “Being Kind.”

For more information about our Humane Education programs, contact sheila@ebhs.org.

Humane Officer News

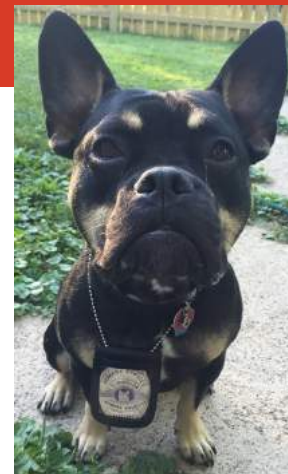
Each summer EBHS Humane Officers receive an influx of calls regarding animals running loose around neighborhoods and causing chaos in their wake. These calls are known to our officers as *animals-at-large* and they sometimes involve bites (both to people and other animals), injuries, and even fatalities. Despite having ordinances restricting this type of behavior in our service area, our officers spend countless hours following up on these often-preventable situations.

Ordinances were created to keep people and pets safe, especially in cities and public places where dogs and people could be injured. They were not created to be an annoyance for pet owners, but to ensure safety for everyone. Even if your pet is friendly with other animals, the animals they encounter may not be.

Accidents will happen and our officers are very understanding of this, but it is also our responsibility to make sure our

community stays safe by enforcing these laws. If you would like your dog to enjoy some uninhibited time without the constraints of a leash, take them to a designated off-leash area (like a dog park) and let them run free. Please make sure that your dog enjoys the company of other dogs before taking them to a dog park as this can be stressful for many animals.

This spring we want to remind our readers to do their best to follow their local ordinances and be part of the solution, not the problem. Each municipality has slightly different ordinances regarding animals-at-large and to find out more about the local ordinances in your area, check out waukeshacounty.gov/localanimallaws.





Dog Training Classes

Private Lessons

Whether you have a newly adopted adolescent companion or an older family companion, private training lessons are a great way to learn how to train your dog to come when called, stay, leave it, and much more. Have a friend – split a private lesson for twice the fun! Special rates for Elmbrook Humane Society adopters!

The Right Start 4 Week Class

Get the tools you need to have a well-trained companion in this small class. With only four dogs in each class, there will be plenty of time for questions and one on one attention. Our certified trainer will work on the basics like sit, come, drop it, leave it but will also work on manners, focus, and impulse control. This is a great class for dog's ages 4 months and up. Dogs do come to all 4 weeks.

Each class is 60 minutes in length and you will leave with a weekly homework plan to ensure success! With fun homework and a plan designed to meet your dog's needs, you will learn how to make the most of your time with your dog, incorporate training into everyday life, and be on your way to a great relationship with your dog!

- Dogs MUST be good with other dogs in a classroom setting.
- Well-mannered children ages 8 and over are welcome to attend.
- Due to the interactive nature of the classes, children under the age of 12 are not allowed to participate in the exercises with a dog.



Call the shelter at 262-782-9261 or go to ebhs.org to inquire about the dates of the classes or seminars we have to offer.

Staff Spotlight

Beth Twaddle
Director of Animal Care and Field Services



What do you do all day at work?

I spend my days helping with day to day animal care, coordinating medical appointments, and animal transports, ensuring our animals are always receiving the best care possible, and lots of other projects as they pop-up. Each day is never the same!

What makes you good at your job?

My lifelong compassion for animals! I have worked in the animal industry for 14 years and have worked in management of animal care for 7 years. I have worked with a wide variety of animals from hamsters to tigers.

What did you want to be when you grew up?

A Zookeeper, which I was for 6 years.

Who are your pets?

I have 5 cats: Maige, a DSH tortie; Zero, an orange tabby; Neville, a gray tabby; Warlow, a brown tabby; and Godric, an all-white DSH (he's deaf and heterochromatic). I also have 2 dogs: Daenerys, a husky and Bru, a rottweiler/lab/pitty mix.

What are your hobbies/interests outside of work?

I love movies, listening to music, rock climbing, yoga, making homemade pet food, playing nerdy video games and board games.

Behavior Blogging

Summer is here so it is time to enjoy a walk with your dog. If you want a happier, calmer dog, approach the walk from your dog's perspective. How? By taking a sniffing walk!

Dogs love to sniff. The area of their brain dedicated to processing scent is about 40 times that of a human's!

Put your dog on a longer leash in a safe area (15 feet or more) and go for a 5-10 minute walk but here is the catch – LET YOUR DOG SNIFF — A LOT.

A 2019 study found that dogs who walked just 5 minutes on a longer leash (5m) spent almost three times as long sniffing as dogs on a short leash (1.5m).



The more the dogs sniffed, the more their pulse rate went down. Not only do dogs love it but it's calming, helps alleviate stress, and is essential for dog's behavioral health.

So a walk for your dog is one that has some freedom with a longer leash and the opportunity to sniff the environment. Try it! You will be amazed and your dog will be calmer and happier as a result of reading the neighborhood "newspaper".

Summer Kindness Camp 2020

Session

July 10th AM
July 10th PM
July 23rd AM
July 23rd PM
July 24th AM
July 24th PM
August 10th AM
August 10th PM
August 11th AM
August 11th PM

Ages

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Time

9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.
12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.
9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.
12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.
9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.
12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.
9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.
12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.
9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.
12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.

In following the CDC guidelines for COVID-19, our camp protocol will include the following:

- Enrollment will be limited to 4 children in each session.
- Social distancing (6 feet apart) between all participants (children and staff) will be carefully monitored.
- A chance to meet and interact with one of our popular certified Therapy Dogs!
- Camp will include: activities, games, and crafts. Each child will also receive a stuffed adoptable animal (dog or cat) with a fun "adoption activity" as well take home goodies and DIY activities for the whole family!
- Parents who wish to enroll their children for both AM and PM sessions may bring along a packed lunch and have their child stay with us from 11:00-12:00pm for a fee of \$10.00.
- Each session will include different activities and themes!
- The cost per two-hour session is \$25.00



Call Elmbrook Humane Society at 262-782-9261 to sign-up today!
20950 Enterprise Avenue, Brookfield, WI 53045
ebhs.org



ADOPTED AT FIRST SIGHT

.....
Having trouble finding the right furever companion? Interested in adopting while spending more time at home? Our adoption floor is closed to allow for social distancing, but we remain committed to finding you a new companion.

Elmbrook Humane Society has the answer with our Adopted at First Sight promotion!



Go to ebhs.org to view our adoptable animals.



If you find your next potential friend, visit www.ebhs.org/index.php/adopt-2 to fill out our adoption application.



Submit your application via email, fax, or mail. We will reach out to let you know once we have processed your application (typically, within 24 hours).



For pets housed at the shelter:

- A staff member will call you for a phone consultation on the pet's personality & needs along with what you're looking for in adding a pet into your home.
- If they seem like the right fit, an appointment will be made for you to visit the shelter & spend some time getting to know your potential new companion.
- Once a match is made, you can finalize the adoption & take home your new family member that day.



For pets in foster homes:

- The foster will set up a virtual meet-and-greet where you can see the animal enjoying life in foster & learn more about their needs and personality.
- If they seem like the right fit for you, an appointment will be made for you to pick up your potential new companion, take them home, & get to know them for a two-week foster-to-adopt period (unless you adopt them right away).
- Our Foster Coordinator will be in touch to check how things are going. If it's a match an appointment will be made for you to come to the shelter and finalize your adoption.



Now more than ever your gift is needed to help homeless animals.

Help us find more loving homes for our animals in our care by donating at ebhs.org.

- \$250 – provides dental surgery for one animal
- \$100 – treats three animals for ear infections
- \$50 – provides spay/neuter surgery for one cat or dog
- \$30 – covers a medical assessment and wellness vaccines for one animal

If you wish to mail in a donation, please do so at:

Elmbrook Humane Society
Summer Newsletter Appeal
20950 Enterprise Avenue
Brookfield, WI 53045

Volunteers Making an Impact



When asked *why do you volunteer for Elmbrook Humane Society (EBHS)*, the responses vary. Many say to keep themselves busy, some reference their love for animals, and others say it's the right thing to do. In this case, volunteer Lisa says it's all of the above and much more.

Lisa enjoys her time at EBHS as it's a way to honor and keep her close to her 21-year-old son Sam, who passed away a year ago February. In 2019, Lisa came to the shelter to deliver memorial contributions in Sam's honor. She realized her desire to continue Sam's love for animals, so she immediately went online and filled out an application to volunteer. She encourages all to do the same!

In her role as an adoption counselor, Lisa shares, "I find closeness and love when I am helping others find a forever pet. I see my son in every smile of a new adopter, from the small children to the dear seniors. I have found a place where I can carry on for my son—I am blessed."



While at the shelter, Lisa reflects and states that Sam was able to convince the family that any and all animals can be a pet - lizards, frogs, dogs, cats, snakes, and even a scorpion! Her entire family loved watching and learning all the different facets of animals and nature from Sam.

Ten years ago, the family adopted their first pet from EBHS, a domestic short hair cat named Bennie. A few years later, along came Koda the dog, soon to become Sam's devoted and beloved companion. "Sam may not be here today, but he is living on through beautiful memories and his pure and loving nature of animals. I feel his closeness when I'm snuggling with my four-legged family members, as well as when I am at the shelter. I love being there and greatly appreciate this opportunity to help others."

In addition to assisting with adoption counsels and adoptions, Lisa is active at the shelter with animal care, as a Brand Ambassador, and has most recently volunteered to assist with communications and marketing, advancing the mission of EBHS.

"It fills my heart with joy to be helping others," said Lisa, who also shared that she has gained more over the past year than one can imagine.



Monty

Eric and Laura lost their dog Monty in November 2016. Not having kids, Monty was their baby, and it was soul crushing when they lost him. Coming home from work to an empty house was difficult for many months. "He was always at the back door waiting for us, and we could hear his tail thumping (wagging) against the wall as he waited for us to open the door," they shared. "Needless to say, it felt pretty empty in our house, and quite lonely."

Both Laura and Eric grew up with pets, so there was a noticeable void in their lives. However, they weren't ready to adopt another dog, as the emotional toll of losing Monty was something they needed to work through. Laura desperately missed the companionship of a pet, so she decided it was time to volunteer at the shelter. When she told Eric of her decision, he said he wanted to join her. Thus, they became the Sunday-afternoon dog walkers.

"I cried on my way home from the shelter every Sunday for months, as everything reminded me of Monty. But as time went on, it became therapeutic and I realized that the dogs we were walking needed us as much as we needed them" shared Laura. "It's hard to describe what our experience as dog walkers has meant to us."

Both admire the tireless effort that goes into every aspect of shelter life - from fundraising to housekeeping to supply management to enriching the lives of the animals - until they find families of their own.

Most importantly, they found Libby (fka Patriotica) in September 2018, and adopted her shortly after. "We walked her for a few Sundays and then decided she needed to come home with us," said Laura. "She went from being a stray dog in Georgia to a spoiled little Brookfield princess, and we couldn't love her more!"



Libby

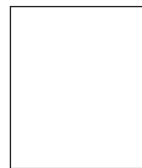
Although no longer Sunday dog walkers, both continue to be involved sharing, "It is an organization that we feel passionately about, and Elmbrook has become a part of who we are as a family. We're extremely grateful that we were given the opportunity to be a part of such a great organization, which has such a positive impact on so many animal and human souls."



For more information on how to get involved and volunteer opportunities available at the shelter, go to ebhs.org/index.php/how-to-help-2/volunteer



20950 Enterprise Avenue
Brookfield, WI 53045



Meet our Adoptable Animals by appointment only.

Call the shelter at 262-782-9261 to make an appointment today!

For more information, call us or visit us at
ebhs.org.



Like us on Facebook and Instagram to stay up to date with everything EBHS!

Wish List Urgent Needs

- Bleach
- Laundry detergent
- Paper towels
- Disinfecting wipes
- Canned pumpkin
- Dry kitten & cat food
- Canned tuna
- Canned kitten & cat food
- Canned dog & puppy food
- Pig ears
- Peanut butter
- Hot dogs
- Potty pads
- Beef or chicken broth
- Cheese slices



Looking for an easy and cost effective way to help animals in our care? Look no further than our Amazon Wish List.

We keep this list up to date with our most urgent needs and you are free to pick and choose items that are guaranteed to be put to good use. Use <http://a.co/dTlrshE> to check out our wish list.

Also, remember when shopping Amazon for your own needs, go to AmazonSmile, choose Elmbrook Humane Society, and Amazon will make a donation to us.

Thank you for supporting EBHS and our mission to save animals in need!



Upcoming Events



Stay tuned for more information about our Lure Course Weekend, our new Virtual Run/Walk, Virtual Vendor Marketplace, and our Online Auction!

**See ebhs.org for more events and details*