

# WAGS & WHISKERS

Quarterly Newsletter for the Humane Society of Scott County



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## COVID 19 IMPACT ON SHELTER PETS

Across the country and all over social media, there have been stories of pet adoptions surging amid the global pandemic we are experiencing today. We are proud to share that our adoption numbers have been strong as well. Since we closed to visitors on March 21st, we have seen 329 pets get adopted into loving and responsible homes.

It sounds ironic, but this pandemic has allowed us to improve our already strong adoption services in a way that we never have before. The adoption outcomes during COVID have been strong, and what we are sure will be long lasting relationships between pets and humans, and certainly a relationship born during a time we won't soon forget.

We of course love when families can come into the shelter, but without visitors, our pets have been given the gift of added time with our experienced staff. This allows us to generate a personality profile on each and every pet- resulting in a great match with new families.



Morocho and Dad, June 2020



Clyde and Brother, June 2020

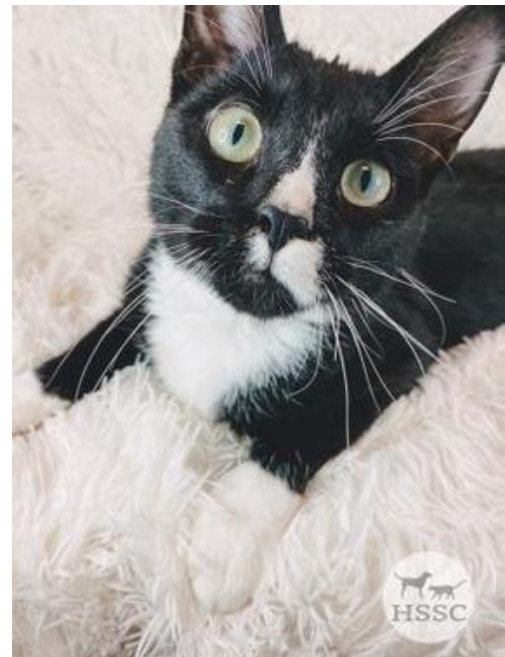
If you are looking to add a family member to your home, our staff is standing by to assist you in finding your match with us. How to adopt: 1-Visit our website, [www.hssc.us](http://www.hssc.us) and get an idea of pets you are interested in.

2- Fill out an application, also found on our website. Be sure to specify which pet you would like to adopt. 3- Our staff will contact you to discuss the adoption, or to answer any questions you may have about the pets.

## YTD SHELTER STATS

Every day, we strive to improve the lives of homeless, lost, abandoned and unwanted pets in Scott County. We are proud to operate our facility based on the Five Freedoms of Animal Welfare, which guides our care plans to determine the best and most humane outcome for every animal we care for. So far in 2020 we have:

- Taken in 1,114 pets or wildlife
- Adopted 528 pets into new families
- Returned 321 pets back home after being lost
- Transferred 137 pets to other licensed specialty facilities or rehab center for wildlife



The above numbers represent live outcomes for 2020. Our live release rate for this year to date is 89%, which is a number we work to improve every day. As an open admission shelter (meaning we do not turn homeless pets away for any reason) we do encounter pets that are not able to lead a happy and healthy life. IF AND ONLY IF a pet cannot be comfortable in it's own skin, or is a danger to the community we live in- do we consider humane euthanasia a possible outcome. For more information on how we generate our care plans and work to be the Socially Responsible shelter Scott County needs, please visit <https://hssc.us/five-freedoms>.



JULY 2020

## HOW TO SUPPORT LOCAL, HOMELESS PETS RIGHT NOW

The needs of our pets have not changed due to the pandemic, and there are many meaningful ways you as the donor can choose to support our organization.

You can view our items wish list here:

<https://hssc.us/wish-list>

**ADOPT A KENNEL:** For \$20 per month, you can change the lives of many homeless pets. This program is designed to provide basic needs to pets available for adoption. To learn more, visit [www.hssc.us/ways-to-give](http://www.hssc.us/ways-to-give) or email Ryan at [rwille@hssc.us](mailto:rwille@hssc.us)



## ADOPTION HIGHLIGHT

**BATTER UP:** This wonderful family adopted Karly (now Wrigley) earlier this year. She looks wonderful in Cubbie blue! Adopting a new pet into a family with pets in the home can be challenging, and this family took the time to allow the pets ample time to get to know each other-working with our adoption counselor the whole way. Happy life, guys!

To see our current adoptable pets, visit [www.hssc.us](http://www.hssc.us) and [#findyourmatch](https://twitter.com/findyourmatch) with us.

## FEATURED PET-ROSE

Rose is an 8 year old Pitbull/Beagle mix with special needs. Since Rose came to the shelter almost 1 year ago, she has had her challenges. As an older pet looking for a home, she is often overlooked as she watches dog after dog walk out of the shelter to start their new lives.

About 4 weeks ago, we noticed Rose was starting to act fearful of people and other animals around her.

This was rare for her-so we took our normal course of action to make her more comfortable. Extra play time, a change of scenery, plenty of fresh air and encouragement and MAYBE an extra treat or two.

Our methods worked, but only temporarily. Upon a close exam of Rose, it was determined that she has slowly been going blind and has lost complete sight in one eye and partial in the other. For this reason, she will be most comfortable as the only pet in a home with no children.

Her personality is sweet, relaxed and respectful. If you would like to learn more, please contact us and we can assist you further!

