

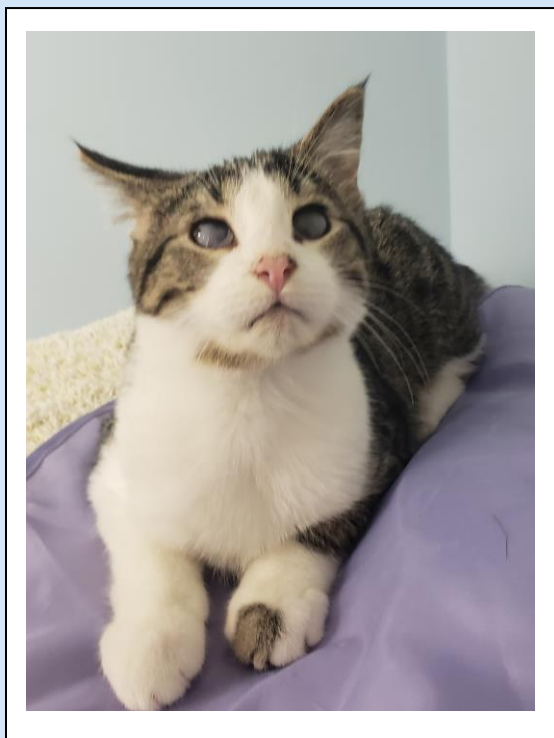
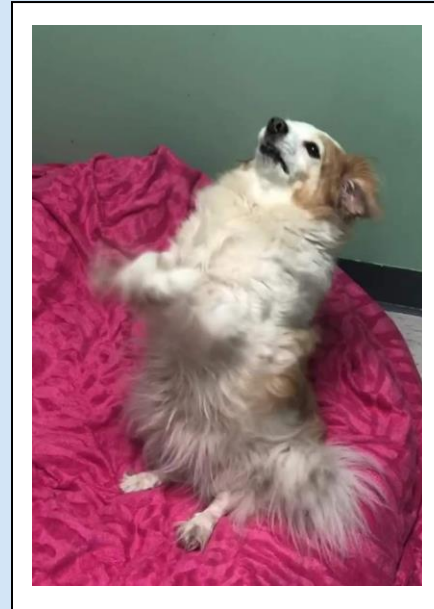


Homeward Bound Animal Shelter Newsletter Third Quarter, 2021

Meet Suzie !

Suzie is begging to find a new family. She is a Corgi mix around 10 years old. She is super sweet, loves kids, enjoys walks, and being brushed. She wants you to know she craves to be your lap companion.

Suzie would love to find her furever home!



Meet Greggy !

Greggy is a sweet young boy who is mostly blind. He is able to see a bit but his slight disability does not stop him from having fun and being a normal, playful, and loving boy. Greggy will always need the occasional visit to the vet to monitor his eyes. He's a happy boy who is ready to find his furever home!



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HAPPY TAIL - A FUREVER HOME!

Zeke, our highlighted dog from the first quarter newsletter, has found his furever home. As you may remember, Zeke has been at the shelter since October of 2019. He has quite a fan club at the shelter as he is a cuddler and loves to go on walks. Zeke loves his blankets and he loved play time in the shelter yard. He sure had a big smile on his face as he headed home! Zeke has won the hearts of his new family. He will roll over or do anything for a goodie – he is a pleaser and has surely wriggled his way into his new family unit. Zeke leads an active life going on walks, running in his yard, and laying on HIS couch. Living his best life – congrats Zeke!



WE'RE HIRING!



- Do you or someone you know love working with animals?
 - Have an interest in how a non-profit works?
 - Want to give back to our community?

Contact our shelter manager, Shareen, at 231-723-7387



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Save the Paws

This year, we continued our Save the Paws campaign from 2020 into 2021. Due to COVID-19, all of our fundraisers had to be cancelled last year and this current year as well. These fundraisers help fund and provide food, shelter, medical care, and a fur-ever home for our sheltered animals.

This year's campaign has ended and we raised \$14,670.00 to help fund the care and upkeep of our sheltered animals.

Thank you to all that donated for this year's campaign. Still want to donate? Our holiday fundraiser starts in November.



Donate today - check out our website:

www.HomewardboundManistee.org

SENIOR-TO-SENIOR PROGRAM.

The shelter has a wonderful program called Senior to Senior which places a senior cat (older than 5 years or has been at the shelter longer than 1 year) with a senior citizen.

The program waives the adoption fee and provides a starter kit which includes a litter box, small bag of litter, scooper and small bag of cat food. Since we started this program, we have matched dozens of cats with a senior. It is a win, win for all.

A senior will gain a companion and friend while a homeless cat finds a new home with a human to love.

If you know someone who can benefit from the program, come check out the many wonderful cats who qualify for this program.





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HELPING US HELP OUR ANIMALS!

Our shelter is becoming a little greener! As part of our ongoing efforts to reduce our carbon footprint, and to be good stewards of the environment within our community, the shelter is partnering with Consumers Energy as a participant in their Cold Climate Air Source Heat Pump Pilot Program.

This program provides the shelter with the opportunity to receive advanced equipment or services to increase the efficiency of our heating equipment. We will be upgrading and replacing some of our heating and cooling equipment with modern advanced heat pumps. These units will reduce our energy consumption, and the associated cost savings can be applied to the health and welfare of our animals. Every little bit helps.

Watch for our 4th quarter newsletter for more details as we roll out this program – and details of our future plans for the shelter!



THANK YOU SO MUCH!!!

The following local folks donated and assembled this beautiful fall display to help brighten up our shelter for visitors and pets alike!

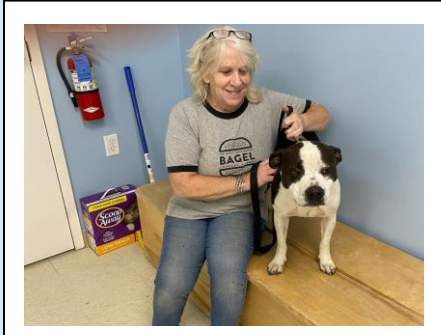
- Lutz Farms
- Pleasanton Greenhouse
- Becky Linderman

WE ARE SO GRATEFUL!





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Valued Employee:

Darlene Wellington – dedicated to our shelter.

When moving here to the Manistee area to help care for her parent, Darlene was looking for a part-time job that would fit her schedule. Darlene had rescued two dogs when she lived in Massachusetts

and was introduced to Homeward Bound and the match was made. Moving here during the COVID lockdown added to the stress of beginning a new chapter in her life but working at the shelter and being able to see the animals helped Darlene through that crazy time. Almost two years later, her work schedule allows her to do what she loves best – care for the animals as well as care for her parents. Darlene is grateful for working with the great bunch of people associated with the shelter and she knows that it takes a village to help our animals get adopted into their forever homes. Darlene believes that our shelter is a very happy, clean, nice place that puts the well-being of our animals first and foremost. She believes that the shelter's hands-on approach helps to acclimate shy cats, put dogs at ease, and welcomes the community. While she loves them all, Darlene has a soft spot in her heart for Bruno (pictured here with her) as well as the cats Whitney and Boon. One cat, Nugget, stole her heart and now has a forever home with her. Darlene would like to encourage anyone interested in helping out at the shelter, whether it be as an employee or volunteer, to stop by. There are several things that can ease someone into the shelter day: playing with or brushing the cats, walking the dogs, even folding laundry. The more people that interact with the cats and dogs, the more at ease they become and getting adopted is less stressful. Darlene wants you to know that Homeward Bound is not like the sad commercials you see on television – everyone genuinely cares and makes it a special place for our animals.

Meet Scott, our special kitty!

Scott came to Homeward Bound with an unusual condition – he has a cleft palate. With a cleft palate, food can become trapped in the hole in the roof of his mouth so Scott is prone to infections. HBAS has treated one infection already. We have taken Scott to several specialists to see to his treatment. While at the shelter, Scott & Greggry have become fast friends who play together well. In order to correct his cleft palate, we are in need of donations to cover the cost of his surgery. Please help this great little guy out and donate today!



ADOPTION UPDATES 2021:

Finding our Fur-Ever homes!

Cats and kittens:

January – March: 44

April – June: 35

July – September: 56

October – December: ??

Total adoptions: ???

Dogs and puppies:

January – March: 22

April – June: 18

July – September: 29

October – December: ??

Total adoptions: ??

WANT TO HELP? If you cannot adopt a pet, you are welcome to sponsor a pet by helping to offset the adoption fee. Check out our website for more information on pet sponsorship: <https://homewardboundmanistee.org/programs>



TEMPORARY ADOPTION CHANGES

When people started to work from home due to the pandemic, shelters across the nation saw an increase in adoption rates. In addition, as people were spending more time around their pets, they became more intuitive to changes in their pet behavior and health. Both of these situations resulted in an increase in demand on veterinary services. Couple this with the issues the pandemic created for businesses in general, scheduling a vet appointment became a lengthy process and that is no exception for Homeward Bound Animal Shelter.

Currently our spay and neuter surgeries are being schedule 3-4 months out. While we are still committed to spay and neutering all our animals before adoption, the wait times for surgeries is not in the best interest of the animal when a family is interested in adopting them. Until there is a change in this situation, the Board has decided to allow adoption of non-altered animals.

To that point, the shelter will be adding a refundable \$100 fee to the normal adoption cost. The \$100 will be refunded to the adopter upon proof the animal has been spayed or neutered. While this is not how we want to adopt out our animals, the priority is the health and welfare of the animals and getting them into good homes.





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Long Range goals ~ Details in our upcoming 4th Quarter Newsletter.

Strategic planning is an integral part of the MCSH Board objectives. Through these planning sessions, the Board compiles the shelter needs and wish list type projects. While current resources may not allow for completion of all of these objectives, we continue to strive and work towards positioning the Humane Society to achieve them. Some objectives have been accomplished such as replacing the lighting to LED fixtures to reduce energy; upgrading cat caging to condos; purchasing property for future expansion; establishing endowment and investment accounts to help for future funding. Other projects like expansion of the cat rooms; creating dedicated isolation areas for sick and pregnant animals; and having a separate building to serve as an indoor play area, a meet and greet for adopters and training sessions for our dogs will not only need more funding than we currently have but we are also balancing our expansion goals with the funding to sustain it. The MCHS Board has made huge steps in achieving our strategic objectives and we are thankful for the community support to make it possible.



COVID Changes at the Shelter

Visiting the shelter... REQUIRES:

- Calling and making an appointment: 231-723-7387.
- Masks are required for all entering the building - *children included*.
- Groups will need to be by appointment and limited to 5 or less people.
- Volunteering - please make an appointment as those who have will take precedent
- We will not provide masks to the public but will sell a disposable mask for \$1 if currently in stock.
- When making an appointment and upon approval at the shelter, a few questions will be asked: Are you currently under quarantine for exposure to COVID? Are you aware of being exposed to the virus? Have you recently traveled? Do you have any of the known symptoms of the virus?