



HOMeward BOUND ANIMAL SHELTER

NOVEMBER 2019

YOUR PET'S HEALTH

If your dog is exhibiting coughing (both moist and dry,) sneezing, nasal discharge, runny eyes, fever, lethargy, and/or difficulty breathing, your furry friend may have contracted canine influenza. The canine flu is a respiratory illness. The virus is airborne, and highly contagious. It can be spread by coughing, sneezing, and even barking. It can also be spread by contact with contaminated surfaces, such as water bowls and kennel floors. There is no cure for canine influenza, and it can lead to serious complications. There have been cases reported as near as Grand Rapids. Fortunately, canine influenza can be prevented by vaccination. If your dog comes in contact with other dogs, whether in boarding kennels, dog parks, or even visiting other dogs, please consider vaccinating him or her.

HUSKY RESCUE

On September 26, Homeward Bound staff assisted Manistee County Animal Control in rescuing 29 dogs from deplorable conditions. The huskies and husky-mix dogs were eating and sleeping on a urine- and feces-covered concrete floor in a barn. Several of the dogs may have been pregnant, and one of the dogs actually gave birth to a puppy in the back of Animal Control Officer J.R. Nelson's vehicle. The pup was not breathing at birth and J.R. saved the baby's life by doing chest compressions. The same dog later gave birth to three more puppies as she was in transit to rescue.

Shelter manager Shareen Edmondson contacted Hairy Houdini Siberian Husky Rescue, which mobilized their vast network of dedicated volunteers, and most of the dogs were removed to foster homes within two days.

Hairy Houdini enlisted the aid of volunteer groomers to cut these beautiful dogs out of what was described as "a hard shell of feces and matted hair."



Sammy is one of the rescued dogs who had particularly serious problems. Sammy had to be carried out of Homeward Bound on a stretcher. He was severely dehydrated, covered in feces, and in addition, he could not open his eyes due to a genetic condition affecting his eyelids. His eyes were surgically repaired shortly after rescue, and he is now doing well.

You can follow Sammy's progress, as well as the rest of the Manistee 29, by going to Hairy Houdini Siberian Rescue's Facebook page.

https://www.facebook.com/pg/HHSHR/posts/?ref=page_internal

This is a wonderful example of how different agencies—governmental and private—working together can perform miracles for our furry friends



CAT RESCUE

In April we were notified of a situation in which 44 cats were found to be living in dangerously unhealth conditions in Manistee. They were about to be booted into the street. Manistee County Humane Society stepped in and the cats were transferred to Homeward Bound. Most of the cats had



need of medical, and even surgical, intervention. Shelter staff spent months nursing them back to health.

Eight of the females were pregnant, and gave birth to a total of 22 kittens at the shelter.

Of the original 44 rescued, thirty have been adopted. Some of the kittens born at Homeward Bound are still available for adoption.

All adoptable cats have been spayed or neutered, and are up to date on their vaccinations.

PUPPIES GALORE!

A year ago we were eagerly anticipating the arrival of the first litter of puppies to be born at Homeward Bound in several years. A mere twelve months later, and we have been home to seven additional litters! Fifty five puppies in all!



As much as we all love puppies, this put a huge strain on Homeward Bound's resources, staff, and volunteers. Shelter staff were often present at the shelter throughout the night to check on dogs who were in labor, or to help with fragile newborns. Many staff hours were devoted to "cleaning up" after the babies. Each litter provided its own particular quirks, including one litter which chewed walls! Thanks to volunteer Nick Wreschnig for drywall repairs!



"Give a Buck"

Change their Luck!



Pubs for Paws will be running from November 1—29 this year. Pubs for Paws is a fun competition among bars and restaurants in Manistee County. Traveling trophies are awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place paw-selling establishments, with a special award for service clubs.

The server selling the most paws is also rewarded. Please patronize the following bars and purchase paws to support Homeward Bound!

Paws can be purchased at the following locations:

North Channel Brewing Co., Stu's Pub, Rico's Roadhouse, T.J.'s Pub, Painted Lady Saloon, HI-Way Bar, 522 Pub & Grill, VFW, Striketown, and Taco Bout It

Arcadia, Bear Lake, Brethren, Onekama, Thompsonville: *The Big Apple, Traks Bar and Grill, Grille 44, Rosie's, Shirley's Place, Blue Slipper Tavern, and Iron Fish Distillery*

Filer City, Freesoil: *Civic Clubhouse, and Doc's Sauble River Inn*



2019 VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER

On October 24 the Manistee County Humane Society board of directors honored a number of dedicated volunteers for their service to Homeward Bound over the past year.

Volunteers, spouses, and board members met at the Manistee Township Hall for a pizza dinner, salads provided by board members, and a wonderful cake created by one of our newest board members, Mary Tebbenhoff.

Certificates were awarded to volunteers for cleaning, office help, fundraising, etc.

We could not do the vital work of sheltering and caring for the dogs and cats of Manistee County without the support of our community. Thanks to all who support us through volunteer hours, sharing our Facebook posts, baking for bake sales and dinners, and donating so many needed items.



MATCHING FOOD PROGRAM

2019 marked the 10th anniversary of **Parkdale Animal Hospital's** matching food program.

For each pound or can of food donated for the shelter at their clinic, they match pound for pound, can for can and deliver to the shelter. Because of their program and other food donations throughout the year, the shelter's needs are being met. When considering a donation of food, you can double your donation by dropping it off at Parkdale Animal Hospital.

Thanks so much to Dr. Laura and Roger Betts for your generosity!

VFW BAKESALE



The Manistee VFW Ladies Auxiliary Christmas Bazaar will be held on November 30, 2019 from 10 a.m. to 3 pm. Homeward Bound will again be represented, selling baked goods of all kinds.

There will be dog and cat baskets available for sale as well. This is a "purr-fect" opportunity to pick up something special for that fur pal of yours!

If you are able to contribute some goodies, please call Homeward Bound at 723-7387. Thank you!

Adopt a Senior Pet Month

November is National **Adopt A Senior Pet** Month, a month dedicated to helping **older** pets find loving forever homes. Shelters and rescues across the country hope those looking to **adopt** a new furry friend will consider adding a **senior pet** to the family this month.

In honor of Adopt A Senior Pet Month, we would like to introduce you to Char. Char is a 12-year old hound/lab mix. She recently had surgery to remove a very large growth on her hip. We were ecstatic to learn that the growth was benign. Char is very sweet, and gets along with dogs, cats, and kids. Shelter Manager Shareen Edmondson described Char as a "joy."

Char is a very special girl who deserves to live out her golden years as a member of a family. Maybe yours?



YEAR END APPEAL

2019 has certainly been a busy year! It has been very clear throughout this year that the need for a quality no-kill animal shelter is more necessary than ever, not only for the health and well-being of dogs and cats, but for the community as well.

In order to continue to run the shelter we will always depend on our community's financial support.

Please consider sending your tax-deductible contribution to:

Homeward Bound Animal Shelter, Post Office Box 144,
Manistee MI 49660.