

# Humane Society of Southern Illinois

95 Humane Rd. Murphysboro, IL 62966 618-457-2362

[www.humanesocietysil.org](http://www.humanesocietysil.org) & [www.hssi.petfinder.com](http://www.hssi.petfinder.com)

*Fall 2008*



## ARE NO-KILL SHELTERS BETTER?

We hear it all the time, how the so-called “no-kill” shelters are better because they don’t euthanize. Some of those shelters would probably agree and some would not. The question is, what are the differences between “no-kill” or restricted access shelters and a shelter like that of the Humane Society of Southern Illinois?

Another way to characterize shelters is “restricted access” and “open access.” A no-kill is a restricted access shelter that has to turn many animals away, because when they are full, obviously they can’t take anymore in. An open-access shelter like HSSI’s shelter turns no animal away, which necessitates euthanizing due to being too full and there not being enough homes for all the animals that are surrendered or strays.

Why would a shelter keep taking animals when it is full, even if that means euthanizing? The reason is that we believe euthanasia by lethal injection of sodium pentobarbital is more humane than the alternatives. Some of the alternatives are being dumped and getting hit by cars, being killed by wild animals, getting sick and dying from lack of care, starvation, dehydration, and flea anemia.

People will often dump an animal in a shelter’s parking lot if turned away. They are then stray animals and must be dealt with by animal control. The HSSI shelter also has never charged a fee to leave animals, because we do not want anyone to simply dump their animals or take them with them and drown

or shoot them or dump them elsewhere or some other cruel alternative. A no-kill/restricted access staff member recently mentioned that the hardest part of her job is not knowing what happens to the ones they turn away. She added, “There are worse things than euthanasia.”

Another restriction of a no-kill shelter is that sometimes euthanasia is the best option, but they are not permitted to exercise that option because of their no-kill status. Many people would agree that keeping an animal in a cage for years, endlessly pending adoption, is not humane. Some animals are extremely aggressive or severely ill.

Unlike many open access shelters, the HSSI has what is virtually a no-kill adoption program. Once an animal is admitted to our adoption program, he/she is not going to be euthanized, no matter how long it takes to find a good home. Unfortunately, most of the animals who come in are not put into the adoption program for lack of space, just like a typical no-kill shelter. There are also rare exceptions where an animal becomes aggressive or very ill in the adoption program and is euthanized. Most animals that get ill while up for adoption are temporarily removed from the program to be medicated or treated and then put back up for adoption. Extra efforts are often made to get animals that have been with us the longest adopted.

Thank you to everyone who understands the important role we play; there are sadly and simply not enough homes for everyone.

*Located between Murphysboro & Carbondale off Highway 13*

Mailing address: P.O. Box 291, Carbondale, IL 62903 / email: [hssi@pngusa.net](mailto:hssi@pngusa.net)

# Marilyn's Second .... And Third Chance

Little Maltese mix Marilyn came into the shelter after she was left in the receiving cages after hours. She was in terrible condition, with mats and dirty teeth. She was estimated to be about four years old and under 10 lbs. Soon the staff discovered she was holding her back right leg up and not always putting weight on it. A trip to the vet revealed an orthopedic problem that needed surgery. Kind-hearted **Dr. Jeffrey Parton of Quality Care Animal Hospital** in Herrin came to Marilyn's rescue by doing the surgery, Marilyn's spay, and cleaning her teeth at a very big discount. Marilyn came through the surgery with flying colors and is now in foster care, where she can get some rehabilitation for her knee and some extra TLC. Marilyn is spayed, up-to-date on shots, and already housebroken. She has a wonderful personality and gets along with everyone.



Marilyn when she first came into the shelter.



Marilyn with foster parents Vickie and Will Davenport.



Marilyn after surgery.  
(above pictures)

**Donations accepted to help pay medical expenses for Marilyn and other shelter animals.**

# HSSI T-Shirts available for sale!

Long-Sleeved “Love is a four-legged word!” shirts



Sweatshirts “House the Homeless” & “With a Bone Like This”



**Long-sleeved t-shirts with designs above are \$18, 2X \$19**  
(cat design is pink/dog design is blue on white shirt)  
(only Large, XL, and 2X available)

**Sweatshirts are \$20, 2X \$22.**  
(“Bone” design says, “With a bone like this, who needs balls? Neuter”)  
(“House the Homeless” only 2X available)

**New designs with the HSSI Logo in the front center are coming!**

Logo shirts can be ordered *in any color!*

Short-Sleeve T-shirt \$15, 2X \$16

Long-Sleeve T-shirt \$18, 2X \$19

Sweatshirt \$20, 2X \$22

Email [jillstevens1@verizon.net](mailto:jillstevens1@verizon.net) or call 687-5922 to order or go to the shelter .

# HSSI DOGS in 2008 APPLE FEST PARADE!

HSSI's adoption program dogs and dedicated volunteers defied the heat to participate for the first time ever in the Murphysboro Apple Fest parade. Thanks a million to all the volunteers! We're already looking forward to next year!



Winston gets some one-on-one time before the parade with walker Nastassia Malin.



Cleveland with friends before the parade.



Becca (left) waits to begin the parade while Sophie Reichert McCormick waits to walk poodle-mix Rita.



Pebbles gets some special attention from Kim Cole.



Marina was great for her bath the night before the parade.



Volunteer Caryn Falcone (left).



Harrison waits for the parade to start with fundraising committee member, Tiffany Ferguson. (above)



Little puppy Oscar gets some water before his walk with Molly Hill.

# The Adventures of Higgins!

Higgins' picture appeared in the last newsletter as needing a home. Well, he found a good home and then managed to jump a fence and get himself lost. But Higgins has been found! Here's his mischievous tale!

"A group of college kids had found him just down the road from our house, and took him home. We think he was enjoying the college-life, as the five housemates were taking turns walking him, and he had taken over one of the kid's bed. They said he was covered in burrs, which goes along with our theory that he jumped the fence chasing a deer... I've raised the fence in the back bordering the field, now that we know how good of a jumper he is. Thank you for your help in locating him." -Tony Bittle



Who me?



Higgins comes home from college!

Higgins really has been the most perfect fit with our family!! From day-one he has been the best companion. He loves to camp, and constantly follows my 3-year old around wherever he goes. We couldn't have asked for a better adoption! - Tony Bittle



Donation needs: Bleach, dish soap, laundry detergent, Lysol all-purpose cleaner, paper towels, Frontline or Advantage flea preventative, heartworm preventative, dog & cat shampoo, dog & cat food, puppy & kitten food, contractor trash bags

# Animal Sponsorship Program

All proceeds from this program are used solely for the care of the animal that you sponsor. You will receive a sponsorship packet from the shelter that includes a 4 X 6 color photo and biography of your sponsored animal and a certificate of appreciation from the shelter staff and animals. A sign will be placed on your sponsored animal's door indicating that you are providing sponsorship for her/him. We will also send you an email when your sponsored animal finds her/his new home. Sponsorships make great gifts!

**Cat Playtime—\$10:** Includes 4 toys for your sponsored cat

**Dog playtime—\$15:** Includes 1 stuffed toy, 1 tennis ball, 1 rope toy, & 2 pressed rawhide bones

**Microchip package—\$25:** helps cover the cost of a microchip for sponsored animal

**Spay/neuter sponsor—\$70:** covers the cost of a spay or neuter for animal of choice

**Shelter health package—\$100:** Provides necessary required testing & vaccinations

**Animal wellness package—\$200:** Provides everything listed above for animal of choice

## Pennies for pets low cost spay/neuter Program

All proceeds from this program fund low cost spay/neuter vouchers that are made available the 1st of each month. A voucher can be purchased for \$35 to cover the cost of a spay or neuter at a participating veterinarian. The veterinarian mails the voucher back to the shelter and receives a total of \$70 for the procedure. A donation of \$35 would provide the matching funds necessary to cover the cost of a surgery. We usually run out of vouchers every month before everyone in line has been able to purchase one. Please consider helping us end pet overpopulation in Southern Illinois. This program has culminated in the spay/neuter of over 3,000 animals since its inception.

## Donations made easy!

**Automatic Donation from your Bank Account:** Please consider contacting your bank about having a regular donation electronically withdrawn from your account and sent to the shelter. All it takes is a little information from Karen Mullins, shelter manager, to get started. Call Karen at 457-2362 during shelter business hours for HSSI's bank name, routing number, and account number to give to your bank. Donations can be specified to go to Pennies for Pets, Pet Sponsorship, general fund, etc.

## Adopt a kennel program

The Adopt-A-Kennel Program allows sponsors to adopt a kennel of their choice in the cat or dog room for a period of 3 months, 6 months, or 1 year. The kennel sponsorship helps our shelter buy and provide food for the animals that are housed in that kennel. The sponsorship card that is placed on the kennel can have a picture of one of your animals, and is a great way to do a memorial for a companion that has passed away. If you want anything specific written on the card, just add that information to the kennel sponsorship form.

## Are You a Member of the Humane Society of Southern Illinois?

*If you are already a member, please renew now. If not yet a member, please join.*

*As a private, not-for-profit organization, we depend heavily on your contributions.*

New member? Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_ Pennies for Pets donation amount:\$\_\_\_\_\_

Membership category: \_\_\_\$100 (life) \_\_\_\$50 \_\_\_\$25 \_\_\_\$15 \_\_\_\$10 \_\_\_\$5

\_\_\_\_\_\$ General Donation \_\_\_\_\_\$ Donation for Specific Program/Project:\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\$ Sponsorship \_\_\_cat playtime \$10 \_\_\_dog playtime \$15 \_\_\_microchip \$25

\_\_\_\_\_\$ spay/neuter \$70 \_\_\_shelter health \$100 \_\_\_wellness \$200

*sponsored animal's name*

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Please send receipt

email: \_\_\_\_\_

(to keep you most up-to-date on HSSI events and needs)

Call the shelter for more information on any of the programs above! 618-457-2362

Mailing address: HSSI, Inc. P.O. Box 291, Carbondale, IL 62903

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

