

# BELLEVILLE AREA HUMANE SOCIETY

## BARK IN THE PARK

Enjoy a baseball game with your dog!

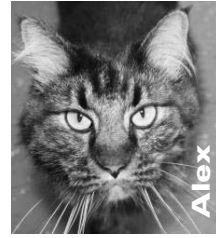
### Gateway Grizzlies



Tess



VS.



Alex

### Florence Freedom

Thursday, June 16, 2011

Game starts at 7:05pm

Featuring:

Incredible Dog Acts during game  
Prizes, Giveaways and more  
All You Can Eat Pre-Game Picnic  
Dogs, Dogs, and more Dogs!!!



All Lawn and Box Seat Tickets Include

All You Can Eat Pre-Game Picnic

Lawn Ticket - \$15

(Bring a blanket or lawn chair)

Dog Ticket - \$10

(Only available if sitting in right field lawn)

Box Seat - \$20

Pre-game picnic starts at 5:45 pm

Buy Tickets Online

Go to [www.gatewaygrizzlies.com](http://www.gatewaygrizzlies.com)

Click Group Tickets

Type in Group Password "BARK"

For more information, contact the  
Gateway Grizzlies at 618-337-3000.



Return Service Requested

(618) 235-3712

Belleville, IL 62223-0057

P.O. BOX 23057



**President:**

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Beverly Mikel

**Website:**

<http://members.petfinder.com/~IL68/index.html>

# WAGGING TAILS

SPRING 2011

## If They Could Talk

By Shelly Korves

Each one enters our door a little differently but they all have a story. If only they could talk and let us know where they have been and what has happened to them. Many have survived adventures that we can only imagine.

Some are whole litters of puppies or kittens. They are one of the millions of unwanted litters born in our country every year. Everyone should visit a shelter and witness the animals that have no homes and I think they would all choose to have their pet spayed or neutered.

Some come in old or broken. They may have been abused or neglected. They will need us to mend them physically and mentally. They need to experience love again.

Some have been well taken care of but their family is moving or can no longer care for them. The hard economic times we live in are forcing people to make tough decisions sometimes. They feel scared in this new place and miss their family.

Others are rescued from Animal Control. They may have been a stray or lost but no one bothered to look for them. They may need medical attention or just love.

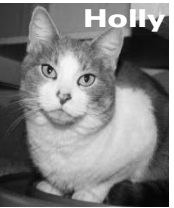
No matter how they come to us, we are here for them. We spend thousands of dollars and countless hours nursing them back to health. We give a part of our heart to each and every one, loving them to make them better.

We can only do this if we receive donations from the community. We rely on your generosity. There is no tax money or government agency to keep us open. Please remember your annual donation this year. We can only do it with your help.

*"He is your friend, your partner, your defender, your dog. You are his life, his love, his leader. He will be yours, faithful and true, to the last beat of his heart. You owe it to him to be worthy of such devotion." - Unknown*



Charlie



Holly



Rosie



Dizzy



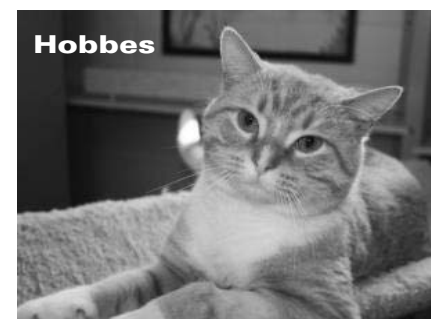
Dottie



Adriana



Scrappy



Hobbes



Eva



Freckle

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Belleville, IL  
Permit No. 646

# DONATIONS NEEDED

Here at the BAHS, we truly survive on the community's generosity.

Here are the donations we need. If you have any questions or something special to donate, call the shelter and speak to our manager, Beverly.



## FOR THE ANIMALS

litter boxes (medium size), heavy duty leashes, locking slip leads (sold at Shop n Save for approx \$8), kwik stop styptic powder or gel, non-clumping clay cat litter, Purina puppy or dog food, Purina cat or kitten food, dog & cat treats, dog & cat toys, dog rawhides and kongs, dog & cat collars, stainless steel cat bowls, plastic buckets (2 or more gallons), plastic pools for the dogs to play in yards

**RIGHT NOW WE ARE IN DESPERATE NEED OF CAT BEDS**

**and DOG BONES (for big dogs) AND DOG TOYS!!**

## FOR OFFICE OR BUILDING



bleach, pinesol, toilet paper, paper towels, Dawn dish soap, liquid hand sanitizer, garbage bags, laundry detergent, copy paper, pens, scotch tape, postage stamps, wire rakes and new poop scoops (\$30),

rubbermaid tubs with lids (med & lge size)

**We also take aluminum cans for recycling!**

## BIG TICKET ITEMS WISH LIST

air purifiers for cat rooms(\$120), professional grade grooming clippers (\$80-\$100), fans, large collapsible kennels (new or used), dehumidifiers (\$200), new vacuum cleaner (\$100), industrial fan (\$100)

## **MICROCHIP Cont.**

Both "George" and the inspector said they could be fined \$1000 if they let Koopa board the plane. Still Mickey and I asked what we could do to get this dog on the flight. "George" said he needed to check something and would return. Seconds later, he came back and told the inspector "Put the dog on the plane!!" Upon hearing this, the inspector asked George- "Are you going to risk your job over a dog?" – his answer "I'll be responsible for this- the dog is going."

We finished the paperwork, thanked George profusely, and made our way back to Belleville. To both of us, a miracle had just happened.

Later that day, I received calls from both Andrew and Anne that Koopa had arrived safely in Texas. It was a happy ending to a great adventure.

## **KARL DEXHEIMER**

**1942-2010**

The Belleville Area Humane Society lost a dear friend and advisor when Karl Dexheimer died unexpectedly on November 25. Mr. Dexheimer joined the board of BAHS in 2000, and served first as vice president and then as treasurer until 2009.



Though his demeanor was quiet and unassuming, Mr. Dexheimer was a powerhouse of expertise and wisdom. Mr. Dexheimer had 40 years of experience in the practice of law, and a lifelong commitment of service to a variety of organizations and causes. The BAHS was made better, and the board grew stronger because of Karl Dexheimer. His influence of character and compassion will resonate through the humane society for years to come.

The BAHS acknowledges a debt of gratitude to Mr. Dexheimer for his years of service to the humane society. The BAHS extends deepest condolences to his wife, Martha, and to his daughters and son and grandchildren.

## **PLAY BALL & BRING FIDO TOO**

Join the BAHS and the Grizzlies on Thursday, June 16 for a ball game with your pooch. Tickets are \$15 for us two legged guests and \$10 for our four legged friends. Tickets include an all-you-can-eat pre-game picnic. All guests with dogs are required to sit in the right field lawn so bring a lawn chair or blanket.

The Purina Frisbee dogs will be there for entertainment. Adoptable dogs will be featured between innings. There are free give-aways and contests including an owner/dog look alike contest.

Please join us for a night of fun and entertainment!! You can order tickets online at [www.gatewaygrizzlies.com](http://www.gatewaygrizzlies.com), click Group Tickets, and type in the password "BARK". You can also purchase tickets at the shelter located at 1301 South 11<sup>th</sup> St in Belleville.



**Board Member Shelly Korves with Izzy and adoptable dog, Pretty, at last years game.**



become  
our fan at

**facebook**

**We would love to hear from some of our successful adopters.**

## MICROCHIP SUCCESS STORIES

In the last month, we have had two very unusual success stories of animals that were microchipped. You read the statistics and you never think it will happen to you but it can. Recently, one of our employees found her cat who had been missing for three years. We also had a dog that chipped back to a family in Texas and had been missing for two years. Both were returned to their families and here are their stories:



### MILO (story written by Kelly Pruett from BAHS)

In 2007, when we used to take stray animals, a cat came into the shelter that had been hit by a car and was severely injured with major head trauma. We took him to the Collinsville Animal Emergency Hospital where he stayed a couple of days and had surgery. We found out the cat would live just fine, but may have some brain damage. You'd never have known the tragedy he'd been through after he was healed up. He turned out to be the sweetest cat ever, so I adopted him.

He was so cute and fun to play with. He thought he was a dog. He'd greet you when you walked in the door, jump on you and lick your face every day. A year after adopted him, I was in the middle of moving and he got spooked and ran out the door. I couldn't catch him

and he ran into the woods. I searched for him for months but never saw or heard of him again. I assumed he must have gotten killed by something in the woods or I'd just never see him again.

Well almost three years later on March 10, 2011, I get an unexpected call from Animal Control saying, "We have a cat that is microchipped to you and the info on the microchip says his name is Milo. We found him in Cahokia running with some other cats." I thought "NO WAY!" He has been missing for three years now! I went right away and picked him up and now he is at home where he belongs, curled up on my bed. They found me because of that microchip in him. It is definitely a miracle! I cry just thinking about it. If it wasn't for him being chipped, he would have been picked up, thought to be a feral/stray and euthanized after seven days. That microchip was a lifesaver for him and for me. I am sooo completely ecstatic to have him back!!

### KOOPA (story written by Beverly Mikel, shelter manager)

It was a beautiful day this past March when Koopa showed up at the shelter. Koopa was a very large, very friendly, and very well behaved chocolate lab. One of our good Belleville neighbors was walking his dog, when Koopa came right up to him. Not able to keep the dog, he brought Koopa to us here at the Belleville Area Humane Society to see if we could help. As luck would have it, the dog did have a microchip in him. However, luck not being completely on our side, Koopa was chipped to Houston, Texas. So while we attempted to contact the owner, we had to send him to St. Clair County Animal Control. Fortunately, we were able to find the Texas owners, Andrew and Anne, and began to frantically try to get Koopa back home.

During these conversations with his owners, we were told that Koopa had been stolen from Andrew two years ago while he was on vacation. Then in 2010, a shelter from Indiana called him, after having scanned the dog; unfortunately, Andrew did not have the means to get Koopa back to Houston. And somehow, Koopa ended up in Belleville at our shelter that March day.

We contacted Dr. Noelle Miles of Monclair... to find out what the process is to fly a dog home. After a visit to Monclair, a check up for the health certificate, and a rabies vaccination, Koopa was ready to go home. And, at the expense of the owners, who made flight arrangements for the dog, animal handler Mickey and I found ourselves at the shelter at 5:30am on Wednesday, April 6 to take Koopa to Lambert International Airport in St. Louis. On our ride there, we prayed that we had all the "i's" dotted and the "t's" crossed. A quick prayer to St. Francis of Assisi was said and we were on our way. Cut to the Delta Cargo Office- "George" checked our paper work and, while making small talk with him, I told George about Koopa's adventures and how important it was to get him home.

We were told to bring the crate with Koopa into their hanger. But when the first inspector looked in at Koopa, he made a thumbs down gesture and said our crate was not the correct one for a dog of his size and that the dog would not be put on the flight. Frantic, Mickey and I explained that we had actually taken the dog to Petco to make sure the dimensions of the crate were within the rules of Delta and were assured that the crate was approved.

Continued on next page

## BAHS WELCOMES PURINA

By Shelly Korves

We are thrilled to be chosen by Purina to be their PetCare Pride Day Shelter for 2011. Fifty to seventy-five Purina employees will be on hand June 7<sup>th</sup> to complete a "shelter make-over project".

We are so excited and will follow this story up in our next newsletter with pictures and details of all of the improvements done for us.

THANK YOU PURINA !!!



Nino



Sampson



Mario

Peace by Piece  
is selling Lucinda Pins  
to benefit the BAHS !!



Check them out at  
132 West Main St, Belleville  
233-1519

**THANK YOU  
TRACTOR SUPPLY  
FOR A PALLET  
FULL OF FOOD.**



we will be  
there on  
**April 30**  
with  
adoptable  
dogs

Thank you  
Carolyn & Wayne Rumer  
& David Bjornson & family



They donated airconditioners  
to help cool the shelter during  
the hot summer months!!



**COME RUN  
WITH US**

The first annual Race For Rescues is scheduled for Sunday, October 16. It is being held at Belleville West High School.

This will be a 5K run/walk with a unique twist. You can bring your dog. And if you don't have one, we will have some of our residents available who would love to run with you. You may even fall for one and decide to make them

a part of your family.

As an added attraction, Bob Keefe is also organizing a tennis tournament to be held with the 5K. So if you prefer tennis to running or walking, please contact Bob at 660-5078 to sign up for the tennis tournament.

Please plan to attend this event. It will be one of our major fundraisers and also a great time to spend with your friends and their dogs.

For more information, contact Shelly Korves 410-6376 or Kelli Rauckman 698-6428. Check our websight for more info and updates as they become available.



## REMEMBER THE ANIMALS

You can make a lasting memorial by remembering the Belleville Area Humane Society in your will. The BAHS understands the importance a furry friend can make in one's life. Pets are more than just animals, they are part of your family.



# Pennies for Pets

By Michelle Meehan-Schrader

On a recent spring morning, Jose the tiny Chihuahua barked at Bella the jumbo-sized mixed breed puppy---and kids at Queen of Peace school in Belleville laughed so hard they almost fell out of the bleachers.

“Jose could fit in a teacup and Bella weighs like 60 pounds,” explained Belleville Area Humane Society president Susan Skinner, who happens to be Bella’s owner. “But since Bella is a puppy, she was really afraid of him.”

You never know what’s going to happen when BAHS brings its Pennies for Pets campaign to your school. You just know it’s going to be fun!

A traveling educational fundraiser, Pennies for Pets provides collection canisters to metro-east schools, encouraging students to donate their spare change to help the animals. Often, a school’s classrooms will choose to compete with one another for the most donations. The winning classroom receives a pup-peroni pizza party, courtesy of Raymond’s Place in Belleville.

As part of the program, PFP also offers an informative presentation to students. Afterwards, the PFP “Pup Squad” invites children to meet former shelter dogs. Guest pooches include Bella and Jose, as well as Captain Jack, a one-eyed Shih Tzu, who is addicted to belly rubs.

For more information about how to bring BAHS Pennies for Pets to your school, call Michelle at (618) 560-9076.

# Sheila & Jerome “A Love Story”

By Michelle Meehan-Schrader

Jerome is a happy, little fellow. Maybe 15 pounds soaking wet. He’s 3 1/2 years old and about to lose his eyesight. But nothing seems to faze the adorable Chihuahua-and-Schipperke mix -- as long as he has Sheila by his side.

A shaggy brunette, Sheila is the slightly larger Schipperke mix with whom Jerome shares his life. The pair was rescued from a dilapidated trailer back in December – only to be abandoned yet again, when their rescuer couldn’t pay the bill.

“It sounds sad but it’s really a love story,” explained Belleville Area Humane Society acting manager Beverly Mikel, who was instrumental in bringing Sheila and Jerome – and their three puppies, which were quickly adopted -- to the shelter. “These little dogs have been through so much. But they’re happy as long as they have each other.”

On a recent afternoon, Jerome, who has a progressive retinal disease, licked a visitor’s fingers, while a devoted Sheila stood nearby. She acts as Jerome’s eyes. She also is best friend and playmate. So it is imperative the two be adopted together.

“Jerome will do really well if he has Sheila with him,” said Mon-Clair Animal Hospital veterinarian Noelle Miles. “The two of them are like Romeo and Juliet. They were meant to be together.”

Though Jerome will eventually be totally blind, he should adapt well, Miles said. The shelter is hoping the pair finds their forever home while Jerome still has some vision. This will make the transition easier. Both dogs are housebroken and extremely friendly and playful.

“One of our dog handlers is this big, strong, macho guy,” Mikel said. “He was in the service. Everything with him is, ‘Yes, ma’am. No ma’am.’ So it was really touching the other day when he said, ‘I’ve never seen anything like these two dogs. I really think they’re in love.’”

Shelter employees have never seen anything like them.

“They are just so fun to watch – two peas in a pod,” explained shelter medical coordinator Betty Tomlin. “Everybody here is crazy about them.”

When it snowed a couple weeks ago, Jerome took to the slopes.

“He toboggans on his belly,” said animal handler Alixx Pineiro. “He tucks his legs and slides down the hill – not afraid of anything. The first time he did it, Sheila walked down to the bottom of the hill and waited for him. When he landed, she cocked her head and gave him this look like, ‘Really. Did you just do that?’”

For information about adopting Sheila and Jerome, who are spayed and neutered, please contact the Belleville Area Humane Society at 235-3712. Because the pair must be adopted together, they are available for the single adoption fee of \$120.



## FOSTERS NEEDED



Missy

Do you care about animals and have some extra time and love? Spring is just around the corner and we will be in need of fosters for many of the kittens and puppies that will be flooding our doorstep.

Often times, we also need fosters to help some of our older or scared friends who are not doing well in the shelter environment.

If you are interested in fostering, email us at [bahsmail@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bahsmail@sbcglobal.net) or call Kelly at 235-3712.



Wall E

## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

All of our volunteers are special to us and to the animals whose lives they touch. In this spotlight, we would like to recognize Kate Rosenstengel.

Kate can be found at the shelter most Saturdays doing a wide variety of tasks. In the two years she has been volunteering, she has done everything from cleaning cages and kennels to updating computer records.

Kate has organized and participated in fundraising events. She was instrumental in getting her summer craft class to make and donate their creations for cat toys. She has gotten to know many of the cats and dogs during her time at the shelter, inevitably falling in love with many. She always shows kindness, patience and caring to all. In getting to know the animals, she is helpful to adopters trying to find the perfect fit for their home.

Her current focus is keeping track of Holly’s fourteen puppies; microchipping, worming, vaccinating and finding furever homes for each and every one.

Thanks Kate!!



# STOP IN AND TAKE A LOOK!

## This is Ginger



Ginger is a sweet girl and we all love her but she has been here too long. She seems to be overlooked because she is black and maybe a little too common looking. She needs to find a forever home.

She is a 3 year old black lab mix and can be timid at first but warms up to you after you spend a little time with her. She loves to play and would be a good addition to most families. She is good with kids and other dogs. She is housetrained and promises not to be any trouble at all. Please ask one of her friends here to let you visit with her. She has a lot of love to give.

Adopt Ginger at the Belleville Area Humane Society 235-3712.