

# ANIMAL'S BEST FRIEND Fund, Inc.

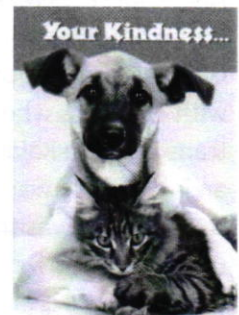
Since 1981

*Prevention Not Destruction* JULY-AUGUST 2019

Number of cats/dogs spayed or neutered year to date. ....	748
Spay/neuter expenses year to date. ....	49,103.46
Administrative expenses year to date. ....	917.82
Donations received year to date. ....	35,576.35

The above totals are through 5/31/19.

Thanks to our donors, the proceeds from our Mother's Day bake sale and our garage sale we did meet our goal of raising \$15,000 during the month of May. This means that we will be receiving a matching donation of an additional \$15,000 later this year. Thanks to everyone who helped make The Match 2019 a success! The money that we raised from The Match 2019 will be used to pay our June and July neutering bills.



4<sup>th</sup> of July Warning- It is a good idea to keep your pets at home instead of taking them with you to 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebrations. Many pets become scared at these celebrations due to the excessive noise and confusion of fireworks and get away from their owners. You can prevent this by leaving your pets at home and inside where they are safe from all the confusion. If you do decide to take your pet to these celebrations make sure you have current I.D. information on them in case they become lost and check with your local animal control agency to see if they have been turned in. A microchip is a for sure ticket home!

## UPCOMING FUNDRAISING EVENTS

Our volunteers are taking the summer off from baking, so there will be no bake sales in June or July. Our next bake sale will be held on September 21 from 9:00-3:00 at Pet Supplies Plus in Portage, MI.

Amy Baker, who teaches Zumba classes will be holding Park Parties (Zumba) to benefit Animal's Best Friend and the SPCA beginning on June 30 from 5:30-7:00pm at Warner's in Paw Paw. Admission cost is an item from our wish list. For ABF, our wish list includes a Purina blue bag cat chow, yellow bag kitten chow, or clumping cat litter. There will also be Park Parties on July 12 from 6:30-8:00; July 21 from 5:30-7:00pm; August 11 from 5:30-7:00pm; August 18 from 5:30-7:00pm and September 8 from 5:30-7:00pm. All are being held at Warner's in Paw Paw. Come join in the fun and help the animals!

## KALAMAZOO COUNTY NEWS

The Mom and Dad cats from a colony in downtown Kalamazoo were trapped/neutered by Donna and Paulette, one kitten was transferred to an area veterinary clinic who will find a home for her.

Donna worked on two different trapping projects in Vicksburg: A Mom cat was trapped/neutered/returned and three kittens were transferred to Richland Animal Rescue who will find homes for them. Three adult females were trapped/neutered/returned to another colony in Vicksburg.

5 adult cats were trapped/neutered/returned to their colony in Comstock.

Over the last several months Darline has been responsible for coordinating the neutering appointments for 79 cats and 22 dogs from low income trailer parks and neighborhoods in Kalamazoo County. We were able to have these cats and dogs neutered thanks to a grant from the Kalamazoo Community Foundation.

## VAN BUREN COUNTY NEWS

ABF volunteers Marcie and Jim have been busy trapping cats and kittens at nine different locations in Van Buren County during May and June. They have been working in Paw Paw, Hartford, Gobles, Bangor, Glendale, and Bloomingdale. Many litters of kittens have been removed from these locations along with 46 adults who were trapped/neutered/returned to their colonies. Twelve kittens have been transferred to Kalamazoo Animal Rescue, who will find homes for them. One pregnant female cat with an injured eye was trapped and gave birth during her car ride to safety, unfortunately her kittens did not survive. She was transferred to Kalamazoo Animal Rescue and her new owners recently reached out to us telling us how much she is loved! Miracles like this happen when we all work together to help the animals! This is an example of why we do what we do!

## SPECIAL RECOGNITION

To Mike Williams; Barb Loney & Mary Johnson for working at our Mother's Day bake sale. To Kathy Eckstein; Mary Johnson; Teresa Rakowsky; Peggy Marcelletti; Diane Karlis; Lorraine Haring; Betsy & Melinda Ryba; Kathy Slocum; and Claudia Johnson for donating baked goods. To Gail Ross for donating catnip mice and catnip. To Dawn Pearson for donating cookie tins. To Beth Burdo for making and donating our ABF envelopes. To Meg Forrest for donating Posh products for us to sell. To Carolyn Woodward for donating crafts. To Pet Supplies Plus for providing the location for our bake sales. We made \$4,022.50 at this sale.

To Mike Williams; Michele Mullen; Mary Johnson & Barb Loney for working at our Father's Day bake sale. To Lorraine Haring; Betsy & Melinda Ryba; Phyllis Martens; Teresa Rakowsky; Kathy Slocum & Claudia Johnson for baking for the sale. To Pet Supplies Plus for providing the location for our bake sales. We made \$1119.50 at this event.

The following people donated to our feral cat program: Kim Dimock; Rita Terpstra; Michele Mullen & Mike Williams; Cynthia Switzer; Ben & Claudia Johnson.

Thanks to Lorraine Haring; Judy Conner; Vivian Spiech; Sue Florian; Barb Loney; Alli Ross; Julie Craighead; the Burlew family; Gary & Sharon Ramlow; Ken & Shirley Jako; Nick & Faith Caro; John & Vickie Brinks for donating garage sale items. To Candace Barber; Vickie Brinks & Kelly Ross for working at the sale. We made \$1,004.55. To Diane Karlis; Ben & Claudia Johnson for donating postage stamps. To Heather Oram for donating the proceeds from our Norwex fundraiser. To Henry Bell for donating cat food and pet food bowls.

FROM

Joyce Barton

Roxanne Sargent

IN MEMORY OF

Irene Booth

Lola

Our sincerest sympathy goes to Sarah Gerstner for the loss of her cat, Jack. Jack was a special cat who helped raise many kittens that Sarah fostered over the years. He was also the Animals Best Friend feline mascot. Jack will be missed by many. The following people donated to Animals Best Friend in memory of Jack: Gaby Dashwood; Cindy Daines; Erica Brothof; Ashley Taylor; Logan Bullard; Madison Steffens; Delores Strom; Holly Bishop; William Moeller; Jenelle Eager; Elizabeth Rehling Overacher; Dee Moeller; Stacy DeHaan Bacon; Laurie White; Bill & Karen King.



The following people made donations in memory of Mildred McLeese: Diane J. Taylor; Dr. Edward Lean; Patrick McNally; Frank Butts; Helen Smith; Lianna McLeese.

FROM

Dave & Barb Loney

Amanda Matthews

Amy Krueger

IN HONOR OF

Alex' 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday

"my girls birthdays"

Judy Holt

HOW YOU CAN HELP ANIMALS

Barn homes are needed for feral and semi cats. If you can provide a barn home for two or more cats contact Marcie at 269/655-1813.

Please continue to save D&W and Family Fare receipts for us. They can be dropped off at the Kalamazoo Cat Hospital on KL Avenue in Kalamazoo; mailed to us at P.O. Box 443, Oshtemo, MI 49077; or brought to one of our bake sales.

Summer is here, providing a simple bowl of fresh water can help your free roaming and feral friends during hot spells.



## RESCUE, VET AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS

This time of year our local municipal shelters are overrun with animals, you can help! They always need supply donations, some have volunteer programs and all need qualified adopters! In Kalamazoo County, they are lucky enough to be building a new shelter next year with expanded capacity for care for the animals. With this, their volunteer needs will be increasing also. Kalamazoo County Animal Services and Enforcement works closely with Kalamazoo Humane Society and Save Our Strays to help find homes for the animals and provide enrichment during their stay. In Van Buren County, it is just a staff of two and no volunteers caring for the animals. The fearless duo of Kasey and Ashley, along with their animal control officers provide amazing care for the animals of Van Buren county with very limited space and resources. Please visit the following pages to see how you can help make a difference in the life of a shelter animal!



Kalamazoo County Animal

[www.facebook.com/kzooanimalservices](http://www.facebook.com/kzooanimalservices)



Van Buren County Animal Control

Friends of Van Buren County Animal Control 

## HAPPY PAWS UPDATE



At the beginning of May, Sarah got a frantic call from a homeowner in Texas Township who just had new windows installed in their house. They had an unexpected visitor in the basement...a feral cat had gotten in and couldn't get out. When they approached, he clung to the rafters and growled. Sarah advised not to feed him and she would be there in the morning. He easily went into the trap and came back to her barn. Seemingly pretty grumpy, he would be the perfect mouser. She set him up in an acclimation crate and made an appointment for a neuter. Everytime she approached the crate to feed/water/change litter he growled like a good feral. He threw a fit at the neuter. After the neuter, he got an upper respiratory infection and something changed in Alvin Eats the Chipmunks so against her better judgement, Sarah put on a bite glove and attempted to pet him...the unexpected happened...he enjoyed it! Now two weeks later, he is still a barn cat but now a happy, jowly boy who waits every morning for his canned food and chin scratches. This just proves, never give up on an animal and the power of caring human touch!

*Animals Best Friend is an all volunteer animal welfare group dedicated to reducing cat and dog overpopulation in Kalamazoo and Van Buren counties. Donations to Animals Best Friend are tax deductible and can be sent to us at P.O. Box 443, Oshtemo, MI 49077, or made on our website [www.animalsbestfriendfund.org](http://www.animalsbestfriendfund.org). Our policy is to spend 10% or less of donations we receive on administrative expenses, which means that at least 90% of your donation funds spay/neuter surgeries for cats and dogs. Since Animals Best Friend was founded in 1981 we have helped spay/neuter 54,921 cats and dogs.*