

MAY – JUNE 2017

# ANIMAL'S BEST FRIEND

Fund, Inc.

Since 1981

*Prevention Not Destruction*

# May is \$ MATCHING GIFT Month!

**FOR MAY ONLY,**  
a generous sponsor has promised  
to match every donation we receive,  
dollar-for-dollar!\*

This is an *amazing* opportunity for you to *double* your contribution  
to Animals Best Friend Fund!

For *every dollar* you spend at our fundraising events,  
for *every tax-deductible gift* you make,  
we will receive an *equal matching donation*.

Come see us at the May fundraising events listed on page 2,  
or send a tax-deductible donation **NOW**  
and **DOUBLE YOUR CONTRIBUTION!**

Animal's Best Friend Fund  
PO Box 443, Oshtemo, MI 49077

\*Up to \$20,000.



Number of cats and dogs spayed or neutered year to date. . . . .	440
Neutering expenses year to date. . . . .	26,027.25
Medical expenses year to date. . . . .	3,940.54
Administrative expenses year to date. . . . .	1,004.18
Donations received year to date. . . . .	14,288.39

The above totals are through 3/31/17.

UPCOMING FUNDRAISING EVENTS

April 29 Spring Fling Vendor Event at Vicksburg High School, 501 E. Highway St., Vicksburg, MI. 10:00 am-2:00 pm Paws Fur Learning program hosts 35+ local crafters, artisans and vendors to help raise awareness of Animals Best Friend Fund, because together we can help end pet overpopulation through spay/neuter. 100% of proceeds collected from vendors and any raffle drawings will be donated to Animals Best Friend Fund.

**The proceeds from all May fundraisers qualify for The Match 2017:**

May 12-13 Garage sale at 310 John St. in Decatur, MI. Hours are 9-5 Friday, 9-3 Saturday.

May 13 Mother's Day bake sale at Pet Supplies Plus in Portage, MI. Across from Meijer on S. Westnedge. 9:00-3:00. We will have gift items for sale in addition to lots of yummy baked goods.

May 19 Quarter Paddle Auction at the Lawton Eagles Club on M-40 between Paw Paw and Lawton, MI. 6:00-9:00 p.m. This event is being sponsored by Great Lakes Beauty Supply to benefit Animals Best Friend. Here is how it works: you purchase a paddle for \$5.00 which enables you to bid on the items that we are auctioning off. Bids are between one quarter and four quarters depending on the value of the prize you are bidding on. The paddle you purchase has a number on it. After all bids are placed we will draw a ball out of a pail and if the number on the ball matches the number on your paddle you win that prize. What this means is you will have the chance to win a prize valued up to \$100 for a four quarter bet. Multiple paddles may be purchased. Great Lakes Beauty Supply has set a goal of raising \$1100 for us. Come out for a fun filled evening and help us reach our goal for the evening. There will also be a concession stand and a 50/50 raffle.

June 17 Father's Day bake sale at Pet Supplies Plus in Portage, MI. Same information as the May 13 bake sale.



SPECIAL RECOGNITION

The following people donated to our feral cat program: Kim Dimock; Christine McGrew; Ray & Jerre Ihrcke; Debbie Norton; Michele Mullen; Ben & Claudia Johnson; Helen Page Dolan; Karen Imus.

Thanks to Ben & Claudia Johnson, Jane King for donating postage stamps. To Joyce Barton for donating crafts. To Meg Forest for donating proceeds from Perfectly Posh sales.

Thanks to Michele Mullen; Mike Williams; Sarah Gerstner & Mary Johnson for working at our St. Patrick's Day bake sale at Pet Supplies Plus. To Teresa Rakowsky; Sherry Quinn; Tina & Ray Spencer; Phyllis Martens; Diane Karlis; Kathy Slocum; Betsy & Melinda Ryba; Lorraine Haring; Kelly Ross; Claudia Johnson and Mary Johnson for baking for this event. To Meg Forrest for donating Perfectly Posh products for us to sell. To Joyce Barton for donating crate pads for us to sell. To Pet Supplies Plus Westnedge for providing the location for our bake sales. We made \$1078.00.

Thanks to Michele Mullen; Mike Williams; Linda Marquat; Sarah Gerstner and Mary Johnson for working at our Easter bake sale at Pet Supplies Plus. To Teresa Rakowsky; Sherry Quinn; Tina & Ray Spencer; Phyllis Martens; Diane Karlis; Betsy & Melinda Ryba; Lorraine Haring; Carolyn Woodward; Claudia Johnson and Mary Johnson for baking for this event. To Pet Supplies Plus Westnedge for providing the location for our bake sales. We made \$991.70.

Thanks to Beth Burdo for donating envelopes. To Carolyn Woodward for donating catnip toys and garage sale items. To Mary Johnson for donating garage sale items. To Sarah Lefers for donating litter and food. To Amber Dafoe for donating cat toys.

HOW YOU CAN HELP ANIMALS

ABF is excited to get our name out in the community and we are looking forward to using any donations from donation cans for the spaying and neutering of animals. If you are interested in helping with monitoring our donation cans please contact Karen at (269) 808-0064.

MEMORIAL DONATIONS RECEIVED

From

In Memory Of

Rebecca Morley

Lucky & Leo

Bud & Verlene Clark

Buster

John & Phyllis Martens

Elma Witsaman

Gwen & Gary Hamilton

Jesse

Chris Wilkins

Tweaker

IN HONOR OF

From

In Honor Of

Rebecca Morley

Debbie Norton

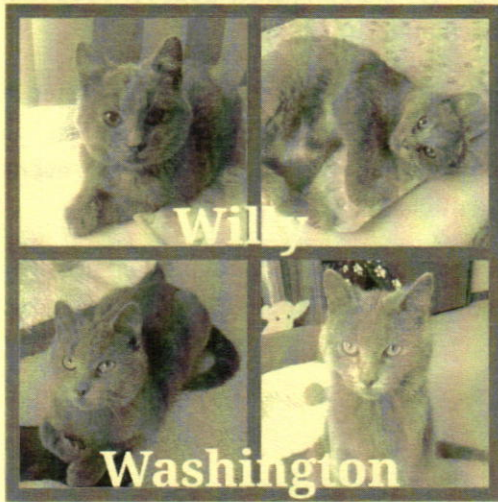
Barbara Herman

Sue Nelson



## PAWS FUR LEARNING

This school year's program has been a bigger success than we could have ever hoped! By the end of the year in mid June, we will have placed over 100 cats and kittens into their forever homes. This includes traditional indoor couch loving cats, rehabbed semi-ferals, barn cats and TNR. The program has grown and expanded due to demand and word of mouth so much that Paws Fur Learning is becoming its own entity and 501(c)3 non-profit for next school year. PFL will still partner with Animal's Best Friend for the spay/neuter portion of the program and educational piece. We have high hopes and dreams to expand into another classroom in Van Buren county and continue to spread the word on the importance of spay/neuter and responsible pet ownership. You can follow the Paws Fur Learning program on facebook, Instagram, and on our website, [www.pawsfurlearning.org](http://www.pawsfurlearning.org).



There are roughly 30 cats still in the program looking for homes including Willy and Washington, a gorgeous pair that must go together. The boys are neutered, FIV/FelV negative, up to date on vaccines, parasite free and treated monthly with flea/tick/heartworm prevention. They are currently fostered with Sarah because they came in incredibly sick requiring round the clock care. The "W Boys" are well socialized with other cats and love Lexi, our ABF mascot. They will make a great addition to any home! Contact Sarah if you are interested in meeting these handsome grey kittens. (269) 998-1787 or [pawsfurlearning@gmail.com](mailto:pawsfurlearning@gmail.com)

## KITTEN SEASON

With the warmer weather, kitten season is upon us! What do you do if you find a litter of kittens that you think are abandoned? The answer may surprise you...you do NOTHING (at first)! There is a good chance that momma kitty is in the process of moving them or may be out finding food. Keep an eye on the litter but do not disturb or move them. If mom doesn't come back within 3-4 hours (her biological clock tells her when the babies need to be fed) then you can start to become concerned. At that point ask yourself several questions, 1) Are they clean? 2) Are they quiet? 3) Are they warm? If you answered yes to those questions, mom is likely still coming back. Keep an eye for bit more time. If you answered no, human intervention may be necessary. This is when it is time to call an experienced kitten foster with a local rescue. Please DO NOT take kittens to animal control facilities. National statistics show that 70% of cats that come into animal control facilities do not make it out alive. Rescues and "no kill" shelters are the best places to turn for help. Do not try to feed the kittens unless you know how to properly do it, this can do more harm than good. Until you can get the kittens to an experienced foster, the most important thing is to keep them warm and dry. A heating pad in a dry box with a towel or blanket works well. A comprehensive list of rescue groups, searchable by zipcode, is available on [www.petfinder.com](http://www.petfinder.com).

*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 facebook page [www.facebook.com/animalsbestfriendfund](http://www.facebook.com/animalsbestfriendfund) or 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 fund spay/neuter surgeries for cats and dogs. Current administrative expenses for 2017 are around 3% of donations received. Since Animals Best Friend was founded in 1981 we have helped spay/neuter over 50,752 cats and dogs.*