



Madison County Pet Shelter, Inc.'s Friends' Connection

February 2014 through May 2014

Editors: Judy Goodwin and Anne Greene

Our mission...

...is to act on behalf of unwanted and abandoned pets in order to achieve the following: provide a safe clean environment, provide needed medical treatment, and give healthy pets the opportunity to be adopted. We also encourage sterilization by providing a portion of the cost when possible to low-income, current pet owners, and we educate young people about the satisfaction associated with responsible pet treatment.

Long-time board member switches from *president* to *emeritus*

All of us at the Madison County Pet Shelter began this year in gratitude. Gratitude for your support of our mission, gratitude for the people who adopted animals in 2013, and gratitude for one of our longest serving board members, Judy Malish.

Judy announced at the December meeting that she is stepping down after nearly 30 years' involvement with the shelter so she can spend more time with her grandchildren. Her perspective will be sorely missed.

In the late 1980s, Judy, along with a few others, began the arduous task of raising money for a shelter that would protect abandoned cats and dogs in this county. Their persistence had to be fueled by optimism as they worked year after year on yard sales, bake sales, and other events to build credibility and support.

Time after time Judy and her children went to Walmart and the vet clinic with yard sales for the shelter. Jim MacLean recalled this memory: "In the early years of the pet shelter we had a combination volleyball tournament at Mitchisson and band at the fairgrounds. Phillip McGarrah and his band came and the Kiwanis had food. Only a couple people came to the band and needless to say, our confidence was shaken. We laid low for several years and then one day Judy got us motivated again. She was nearly always involved. She was persistent."

Many thanks go to Judy and the other founders. In December, the board agreed that because she had served as president for many years, Judy had earned the title of president emeritus. Thank you, Judy!

Madison County Pet Shelter Installs Officers



The picture above was published in the March 10, 1988, issue of the Record. Judy Malish, (front row, in front of Jim MacLean) worked long and hard to help get the pet shelter established.

Contact us at **Paws and Claws Thrift Cottage**, downtown Huntsville, **479-738-1572**,
OR at mcpsfriends@gmail.com,
OR at MCPS Friends PO Box 364 Huntsville 72740

Pets in Prose and Poems

Koko and Yum Yum, feline hero and heroine

If you enjoy whodunits and if you like cats, you're sure to enjoy Lilian Jackson Braun's books, most of which start with, *The Cat Who...*

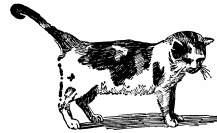
Sure, maybe they're not great literature, maybe they're eye candy, but I, for one, need eye candy every once in a while. And Braun delivers. She wrote 29 *Cat Who...* books between 1966 and 2007.

As in any series, we become familiar with the main and recurring characters who include the beautiful Siamese cats, Koko and Yum Yum. Koko is very smart. He gives the main human character, Jim Qwilleran, clear and not-so-clear hints every time Jim gets tangled up in another murder. Yum Yum is not very smart, but she is sweet and very beautiful.

To me, the earlier books outshine the ones written toward the end of Braun's career in the mid-2000s. But I thank her for creating a body of work that makes for light, fun reading, especially for cat lovers.

Who's your favorite cat or dog character? AG

Educating Tomorrow's Pet Owners



Bonnie Rodgers, MCPS board member—assisted by Betty Dietz, long-time shelter

supporter—goes into Madison County classrooms each spring to educate grade-schoolers about how to interact with and take care of pets. This year, Bonnie will make her presentation to third-graders in Huntsville, St. Paul, and Kingston. The children will learn how to handle a pet properly, how to read pets' body language, how to deal with unknown or stray animals, and much more. She gives the students fun pet-related worksheets, information for parents, and other small items to help them remember the lesson. Your membership in FOS helps her keep up this good work. Thank you!



Are you thinking of adopting a puppy?

If you are going to adopt a puppy soon, or have recently adopted one, Adopt a Pet has some good reading for you, and it's available for free. *The Puppy Manual* by Jennifer Warner is thorough and easy to read. Ms. Warner lays out a punishment-free regimen that, if followed, will incorporate a well-behaved, happy companion into your life. It is also a good reminder of the time required to raise a well-adjusted puppy. Be ready for this time commitment and approach this training period as an investment that will pay off in a years-long loyalty unlike any other. Free copies in various formats are available at adoptapet.com. A Kindle version is also available for 99 cents.

Adopt a Pet
A new name for 1-800-Save-A-Pet! **Com**

15 for \$15 will help reduce pet overpopulation

In February, the Madison County Pet Shelter is offering a program we call **15 for \$15** that will offer 15 spay/neuter operations for \$15 to fix pets of low-income Madison County residents—limited to two surgeries per household.

As spring approaches, increased daylight seems to tell our companion animals that this is a particularly good time to increase their numbers. And spring invariably brings more litters of puppies and kittens into the shelter. Cute puppies and kittens, but too many puppies and kittens.

One part of the shelter's mission is to help low-income people in Madison County spay or neuter their current pets when possible. In January, board members allocated funds for this program with an eye on its potential to reduce the shelter's population later this year. The Humane Society of the U.S. also promotes spring surgeries and has designated Feb. 25 World Spay Day. We may repeat 15 for \$15 in March; watch our Facebook page and the Madison County Record.

The Madison County Pet Shelter is a 501(c)(3) located at 2075 Madison 6555 near Huntsville. To learn more about **15 for 15**, call the shelter at 738-1505. It is open Tuesday through Saturday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.



The race has run its course

Did you know that 2013 was the last Paws and Claws

Race for the Madison County Pet Shelter? When it began in 1998, Polly Potter, a long-time board member, said she'd direct the race for 15 years, and that's just what she did. She announced at the March 2013 race that it was the last one. When our race started, there were many fewer races in this region and the shelter did very well for several years. As time went on, more and more organizations began hosting races as fundraisers, and revenue from the pet shelter race diminished.

Polly and another board member, Carol Horton, put their energies into establishing a thrift store for the shelter. It opened in July 2012 and is providing a significant percentage of the shelter's income now.

It's called Paws and Claws Thrift Cottage and is located diagonally across from the courthouse, just off the Huntsville square, at 112 W. Main. It's open Mon. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Tues.-Fri. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sat. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The phone number is 479-738-1572.

Madison County Pet Shelter's 2013 Intake (optimum capacity: 30)													
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	
Canine	35	23	29	29	14	50	35	37	29	16	15	5	317
% of total	90%	96%	76%	66%	41%	66%	64%	70%	67%	70%	41%	63%	67%
Feline	4	1	9	15	20	26	20	16	14	7	22	3	157
% of total	10%	4%	24%	34%	59%	34%	36%	30%	33%	30%	59%	38%	33%
Average monthly intake as of Dec. 31, 2013:													2013 Total 474

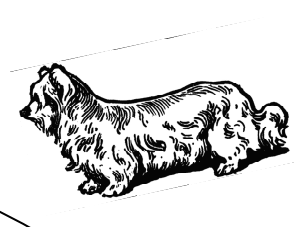
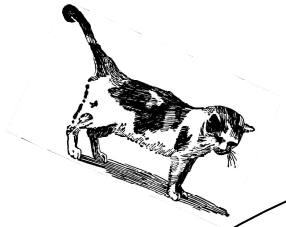
Here are 3 easy ways to support the Madison County Pet Shelter

#1—Play bingo! At 6PM every other Saturday, American Legion Hall, Hwy 23, south of Huntsville. Next bingo: Feb. 15.

#2—Recycle! Take discarded printer and copy machine cartridges and cell phones to the recycling center (738-6351).

#3—Buy online from Dog Collars Boutique! 20% of every sale will go to our shelter if you use this link

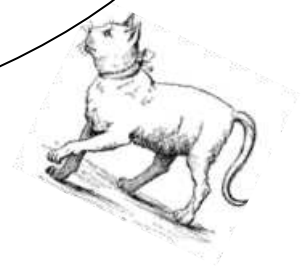
(<http://www.dogcollarsboutique.com/?SSAID=178>) or select us at this link before paying (<http://www.dogcollarsboutique.com/Save-A-Dog-or-Cat-With-Your-Purchase-sp-91.html>).



**Meow-meow, woof-woof
(Translation: Thank You!)**

The animals at the Madison Count Pet Shelter offer all customers of the Paws and Claws Thrift Cottage in downtown Huntsville a heartfelt thank you!

In 2013, the thrift store was able to transfer \$15,000 into the shelter's operations account. That's because of the high-quality donations given by our supporters and because of our wonderful customers and the volunteers who give their time and talent working in the store. We're at 112 W. Main just off the Huntsville square, diagonally across from the courthouse. The store's number is 479-738-1572. We're open Mondays 10AM to 2PM, Tuesdays through Fridays 10AM to 5PM, and Saturdays 10AM to 2 PM. Come by and visit. We'd love to see you!



Watch for the springtime rabies clinic—sometime in mid-April

The Huntsville Veterinary Clinic and Madison County 4-H members will once again offer a springtime rabies clinic in various communities around the county. It's a great way to both support 4-H and to keep your pets healthy. Last year, Arkansas had a high incidence of rabies cases. The rabies vaccinations will be \$9, \$1 of which goes to 4-H programs. The veterinarians and 4-H'ers will go to nearly two dozen sites in Madison County during the three days of the clinic. Other vaccinations will be available at these clinics. The service may be paid for with cash or checks. Watch the *Madison County Record's* "Extension Corner" article for this year's schedule. It will also be posted on Extension's Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/madison.extension>.

Go ahead, try this at home...

Pumpkin Perfection Dog treats:

- One 15 oz. can mashed pure pumpkin (NOT the spiced pie filling)
- 3/4 cup cream of wheat OR rice cereal OR rolled oats
- 1/2 cup dry powdered milk

Mix it up. (You can mix the cereal dry; no need to cook it first.) Bake at 300 degrees F for 15-20 minutes. Hope your doggie enjoys these simple cookies!

Can you provide a foster home?

We are working hard toward reducing the euthanasia rate at our shelter, and one good way to do that is to have a group of people who are willing to provide foster care for select animals. It could be an animal recovering from an injury or an older animal more comfortable in a calm environment or postnatal mama dogs or cats or very young puppies or kittens that require bottle feeding or an animal with some other special need. If you can lend a hand, call us at the Paws and Claws Thrift Cottage, 479-738-1572, and let's talk!