



WASHINGTON COUNTY
JOHNSON CITY
ANIMAL SHELTER FOUNDATION

July 2021 - June 2022

PAWS & TALES

Washington County Johnson City Animal Shelter Foundation



Pete Fuzzy Butt Bruce the 1st



The healing power of a special needs cat

After losing Max, my beloved cat I had adopted twenty years ago, my heart was broken. The only thing I knew to begin healing my heartache was to seek the comfort of other animals at the WCJC Animal Shelter. During my first trip there, a long-haired handsome guy named Fuzzy Butt caught my eye. He was perched on the floor of his cage showing off his gorgeous mane and a sign that read, "I have asthma and will need a special home." I let my furry friend out and he purred and talked to me; never letting his tail stop waving back and forth. I came back daily for the next five days to visit. It became apparent that he was the perfect fit. When I shared his story with my oldest daughter she responded by saying, "Aww, I feel like an asthmatic cat is our vibe"... and she's right! He came home and proudly claimed his humans. He was gradually weaned off his medication needed at the shelter and has not had a single asthma attack. His health looks bright and only needs medication on an as-needed basis. He is the most laid-back cat, has the funniest mischievous personality, and walks with pride; as if he knows he has finally made his way to his forever home. Having adopted the name Fuzzy Butt in the shelter, he now goes by the name Pete Fuzzy Butt Bruce the 1st, Pete for short. He loves opening cabinet doors, playing in wooden cubby holes, and napping with his bigger, much goofier brother, Abe the German Shepherd. He has brought a tremendous amount of joy and healing to our home, and we think the feeling is mutual.

Sincerely,
Holly Quinn



PETS ARE – bundles of love wrapped in fur.



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



These are exciting times at the Shelter. Due to a generous donation from Doug and Judy Lowrie, the Spay/Neuter Clinic will open this Fall. This addition is a game changer as it will allow the shelter to spay and neuter animals within days of their arrival, greatly expediting the timeline for them to be adopted. Eventually, low-cost spay and neuter services will be provided to surrounding shelters and the general public.

More good news—our Memorial Brick and Tile fundraising campaigns are going strong. If you would like more information on how to honor a beloved pet or other loved one through an engraved brick in the Memorial Garden walkway or a ceramic tile photo on the Memorial Wall inside the Shelter, please visit the website at www.wcjanimalshelter.org.

My heartfelt thanks to our donors and volunteers who help us support and care for the shelter animals while they wait for adoption. We are grateful for your generosity and hope you take great pride in the difference it makes.

Best Wishes,
Star Barto
Immediate Past President, WCJC Animal Shelter Foundation

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Many people enjoy the thought of adopting a pet from their local shelter. It is very rewarding to know you have given an animal a second chance. Animals that enter the shelter can range from young puppies and kittens to seniors. Some animals may have existing medical conditions or special needs that require a little more love and attention.

Animals with special needs are incredibly adaptable, despite their limitations. They are loving, often playful and can bring great joy to their owners' lives. But because of their special needs, being elderly, or disabled and otherwise, limited pets are often the last to be adopted from animal shelters.

Adopting an animal is always rewarding, but being able to give a forever home to a "less-adoptable" animal is even more fulfilling. Special needs pets are incredibly inspiring to be around. Anyone considering taking on the responsibility must keep in mind that a special needs pet will require more attention, care, love and financial support than average household pets.

Please consider adopting a special needs pet today.

Sincerely,
Tammy Davis, Executive Director



RECENT *Rescues*

August of 2020 was a difficult time, having recently moved to Johnson City and then losing the love of my life to a heart attack and adjusting to isolation and life with COVID. My children decided I needed some pets at home, so we went to the Washington County Animal Shelter and found two adorable kittens who were 4-month-old brothers. Ross and Chandler came home with me that day and have been a joy.

I started following the Washington County Animal Shelter website and Facebook pages. Every time I saw a senior dog posted my heart just ached for the poor dog, so I decided to volunteer focusing on walking and spending time with the older dogs at the shelter. That is when I met Abby. A 10-year-old Shepherd mix. She had been surrendered with two other dogs by an owner who could no longer care for them due to poor health. She was sweet, sad, a little crippled with arthritis but such a good girl. On one of my visits to the shelter I decided Abby just had to come home with me. She had been at the shelter for 99 days.

Abby has been the perfect dog. There is great value in adopting a senior, mature dog. Abby lets me know when she must go out, she does not chew on anything, she has easily adjusted to the cats and is perfect on walks, always staying by my side. Abby is on medication for her arthritis and frequent walks are helping her condition. She is a wonderful addition to my home and family.

Senior dogs are awesome! My goal is to make all of Abby's tomorrows good and happy ones!

Sincerely,

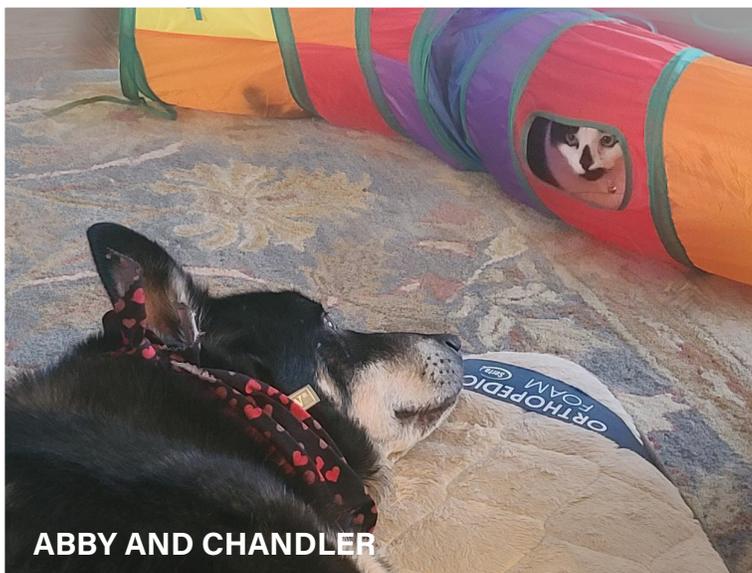
Barbara Stankowski



ABBY



ROSS AND CHANDLER



ABBY AND CHANDLER



ROSS AND CHANDLER



SHIVA



I had only been working at Watauga Orthopedics for a few short months when they announced they were hosting an adoption event for the Washington County Animal Shelter. When it was my lunch break, I went to the picnic area where they were keeping the dogs. They were all so sweet, but there was one who stood out to

me right away (maybe it was the fairy wings and tutu she was dressed in!) I reached down to pet her, and it was love at first sight. I knew right away that she had a loving and friendly heart. I asked for her name, and they told me her name was "Bizarre." My husband met me there because we knew we might adopt a dog. As soon as he turned the corner, Bizarre jumped up to greet him. He loved her right away too. We met other dogs, but our eyes kept going back to the little dog in the tutu. We filled out an application and picked her up the next day!

We renamed her Shiva (pronounced "Sheeva"), and she is named after a video game character from our favorite game. For the first few weeks, we had a lot of challenges with crate training and potty training. We cleaned up after her A LOT. But we didn't want to give up on her. We called one of the trainers from the shelter that did a great job working with Shiva. Shiva hasn't had any issues since her training. We are so grateful the shelter had a trainer who could help us.

Shiva is doing great. We love her more every day. She's our baby girl for sure! We are so glad we chose to adopt and not shop.

Sincerely,
Chloe Dalton

Our family remembers the first time we noticed Devon in his enclosure on February 15, 2022. My daughter and son had lost their cat. We believe someone stole him from our yard. Broken hearted we went to the shelter to find a new furry friend. My daughter wanted to adopt a kitten. After looking over all the kittens, we came to Devon. He was so sweet and begged for attention. A sign on his door stated sensitive food only. I asked my children if they wanted to take Devon to the kitty play room. Yes, they did and immediately fell in love. We asked about the note and we were told that he had been at the shelter for 5 months, and thought hard to adopt due to a sensitive stomach and litter box training issues. That didn't stop us from giving him a forever home. Since being with us, he has been the most grateful pet. My daughter renamed him Boots. He cuddles with her every night. He is helping to mend her broken heart and hopefully we are now mending his. Thank you for giving Devon a chance to find a family to love. We are blessed to have him. I would tell anyone, pets that patiently wait the longest are the most appreciative. We will always pick the ones that need love the most.

Warm regards,
Jessica Adams



BOOTS

SHELTER STATS

JULY 2021 - JUNE 2022

of Adoptions – Dogs **285**

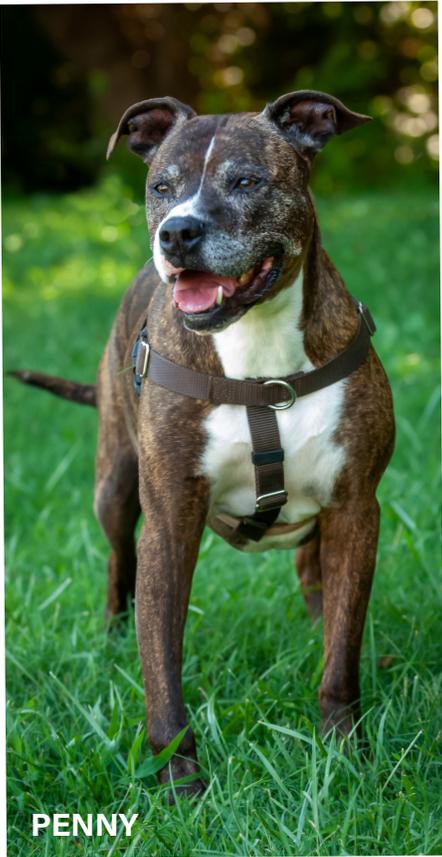
of Adoptions – Cats **1,253**

of Reclaims **416**

of Incoming – Dogs **1,162**

of Incoming – Cats **1,667**

RECENT *Rescues*



PENNY

This is the true story of how a rescue named Penny changed our daily life. My wife gave me the idea to adopt a dog. I wasn't too keen on it at first. I never realized that a dog could imprint on me. Boy, was I wrong! Penny has helped all of us; from my wife, to my son, to myself. For example, before Penny, my wife didn't get out much. Now that we have Penny she's happier, she gets out more, and she manages her depression better. Penny also knows what time my son gets off the bus and will sit and wait for him so she can bombard him with love and cuddles.

Penny has helped me too. She has shown me the meaning of responsibility. She helped me realize that just because you have done bad does not mean your life can't get better. Penny didn't do anything bad, yet she had a "Ruff" life like me. If someone was willing to give her another shot at life, then I believe there is hope for me too. I need to keep my head up and look out of the same window that she once looked out of herself. Penny waited at that window at the Washington County Animal Shelter for more than three years and never lost hope that one day she'd find her forever home.

Many thanks to the Washington County Animal Shelter! You are doing a great job! I thank you all so much for letting us be a part of Penny's life and taking care of my baby until we could get her.

Thank you!
Sammy Gilley



KAIN



CHAIN*FREE*DOGS

Kain, a four-year-old Great Dane mix was a stray that remained at the shelter for 720 days! He grew up at the shelter to be an incredibly friendly, strong, athletic handsome boy. Now in his forever home, he is living the good life. He enjoys most of his day in a large 6 ft fenced yard which he has escaped a couple of times, but adjustments have been made to keep him safely inside the fence. His freedom was made possible by the work of Lyons Fencing, and donations from Elizabethan Federal Savings Bank and Chain Free Dogs.

Note: Man's best friend should have a safe area to run and play freely. Chain Free Dogs, a volunteer-led organization in Washington County, builds fences to free dogs from chains. We advocate against the chaining and tethering of our furry friends. www.chainfreedogsjohnsoncitytn.com

MEDICAL EXPENSES

JULY 2021 - JUNE 2022

**TOTAL
MEDICAL CARE
\$90,567.83**

**TOTAL SPENT ON
SPAY/NEUTER
\$93,451.62**



Scan here for more info or to register

1st ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

For more information or to register go to wcjcanimalshelter.org/putt-for-paws

RECENT *Rescues*



JELLY

For our youngest child's 12th birthday she requested to visit the WCJC Animal Shelter to see the cats. We took her just to visit, and had not planned on adopting as we already had an elderly dog and a bunny. Those plans changed when my two girls spotted a fluffy orange and white kitten. He had the sweetest meow! And, he fell asleep in their arms! We were told that Jelly had special dietary needs due to a previously prolapsed bowel and needed to eat special food. We felt that we could manage his special diet and brought him home a week later. He has been a joy! He entertains us with his "parkour" skills, and when he's worn out, he's content to cuddle or sit in his favorite window. We all love Jelly and are so glad that he's a part of our family!

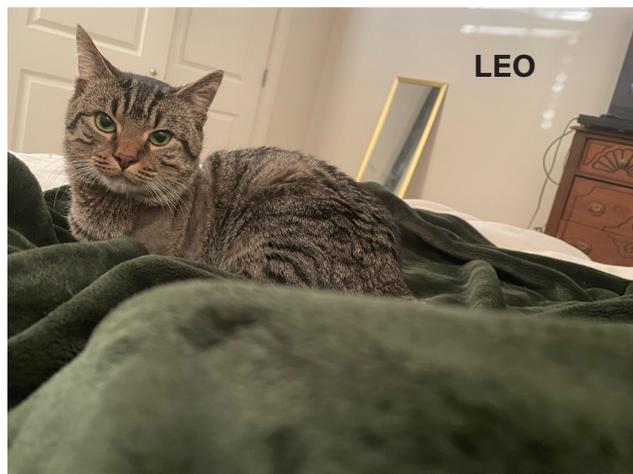
Thank you!

Rebecca Ross

This is Leo that I adopted in February. This little boy has been through so much in his life from a hoarding situation to having his leg amputated, none of it slows him down in the slightest. He's the sweetest boy with a strong sassy side too. I adopted Leo knowing the day was soon approaching when one of my dogs would pass. That time came. Leo is probably the only reason I am okay right now, as he senses my loss. He tries to stay attached and is constantly attempting to give me love. I have two other cats that have stayed near and a dog that wants a little more love too. I adopted Leo to help the other pets through this, but he's getting me through it more than I thought possible. He's one of the best decisions I have ever made.

Sincerely,

Chelsea Jones



LEO



ALEX AND BAILEY

I was browsing through rescue cat photos online. I saw a photo of Alex and immediately fell in love. My cat, Bailey and I anxiously waited for the day we were able to welcome Alex home. I was so grateful for the regular email updates I received from Liz at the WCJC Animal Shelter. When the big day finally arrived, I drove down from Knoxville to pick up Alex. On our drive back, I kept looking over at him resting in his new carrier and was overcome with joy. Alex was shy the first few weeks in his new home. Bailey and I took turns laying with him on the floor. We wanted Alex to feel safe and welcome. As Alex warmed up to us, his personality started to shine through. Hearing his unique singing meow and laughing at his awkward lounging positions easily became little rays of sunshine I looked forward to each day. It quickly became clear to us that Alex was the missing link in our little family. Bailey and Alex are the best of friends and love cuddling together. I am so incredibly grateful for the enormous amount of love and joy Alex has brought to our home.

Thank you!

Aimee Chico

HELPING Hands

MEMORIAL GARDEN AND WALL



The needs of the shelter rescues are great. Please assist our fundraising efforts with a special tribute.

Brick | \$120

Commemorative bricks can be inscribed to honor or memorialize a loved one, pet or person. Each brick is engraved using laser technology, ensuring durability and resistance to the elements. Your commemorative brick will help pave the exterior walkway outside the Washington County/Johnson City Animal Shelter.



Tile | \$250

Imprinted with a beloved pet's color photo and name, commemorative tiles are permanently installed on the interior walls of our Adoption Center, and serve as an everlasting tribute to the love and bond between animals and their families. Thousands of visitors each year will see these furry faces decorating our walls, and many will visit their own personal tile again and again to remember a special pet.

TO ORDER A TILE AND/OR BRICK, VISIT www.wcjanimalshelter.org

VOLUNTEERING ISN'T JUST GREAT FOR THE ANIMALS

Volunteering is the best possible kind of addiction. Sometimes we expect to be at the shelter for just an hour, and soon realize that three hours have passed, and we are covered in ten (10) different dog's and/or cat's hairs. We are exhausted, but we are also the happiest we have been all week. This is our therapy.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! The first step to becoming a volunteer is to complete a volunteer application online at www.wcjanimalshelter.org. We need volunteers for: dog walking, cat socialization, community outreach, laundry, sanitizing kennels, poop scooping, front desk helping, adoption counseling and greeting, kitten foster parenting and dog bathing.



FRIENDS OF THE SHELTER

Pin provided to Friends of the Shelter members.

Friends of the Shelter provides direct support to programs that improve the welfare of animals in our community. They make important contributions for ongoing programming, allowing us to expand our critical lifesaving work.

Each member makes a monthly tax-deductible contribution of \$25, \$50, or \$100 over 12 months or the option to donate annually. Contributions may also be made in annual sums of \$300, \$600 or \$1200.

Programs supported by Friends of the Shelter are designed specifically to save and improve the lives of thousands of animals in Washington County and Johnson City. Some of the activities include:

Spay/Neuter
Adoption services

Food & supplies
Medical care

Feral cat population control (*feral cats are caught, spayed or neutered and released*)



TO ENROLL, VISIT wcjanimalshelter.org/friends-of-the-shelter/

OUR Mission

To raise funds, improve the quality of life for the shelter's animals, promote spay and neuter, facilitate outreach and educational activities about the humane treatment of companion animals throughout WCJC, and to increase pet adoptions at the WCJCAS.

FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Angelica Ares, *angelica_ares@yahoo.com*

WCJC ANIMAL SHELTER ANNUAL FISHING TOURNAMENT



THANK YOU to Century 21 Legacy and all of our sponsors who helped make our fishing tournament a huge success!! Without your support and love for animals this would not have happened. The tournament raised over \$13,000 to help support the needs of our fur buddies at the Shelter.

CORPORATE SPONSORS

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GOLD

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BE AN ANGEL TO THE RESCUED

Remember our furry friends through the WCJC Animal Shelter Foundation in your trust, or other estate planning documents.

