

# Humanely Speaking...

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## CATNIP



In early October of 2014, the cat-focused committee of com- to assure our cat population is committee has developed an active foster care system and, with the assistance of Joy and Hannah at the Washington County Animal Shelter, we are now able to move cats and kittens from the shelter into the care of loving homes.

Humane Society began a munity volunteers who aim healthy and controlled. This

Some foster families are able to take 2-4 animals at a time and approximately 30 kittens and cats currently are in foster care. Fostering helps decrease the number of animals in the shelter and helps limit the spread of diseases in this population. Moving cats from the shelter into foster homes also helps socialize the cats, making them more comfortable with dogs, children, and being held in someone's lap. Foster families get to know the cats' personalities so that we are better able to match each cat with the right owner. Cats have their own personalities; cats have feelings; cats are devoted to their owners (even though some choose not to share that openly with the world). Just ask our foster families! The ultimate outcome of the foster program is that, when cats are adopted, they are healthy and ready to be a happy member of their forever family.

In addition to the foster program, the Humane Society helps control the pet population by requiring all adopted animals are spayed or neutered. We also educate the community on the hardships suffered by feral cats and the necessity and many benefits of spaying and neutering.

There are so many homeless cats in Washington County that it will take the entire community to make a difference in the population and quality of their lives. Thank you to all of the wonderful people in the community who have already done so much to help.

## SNIPS Spay and Neuter News



### March Spay & Neuter Special!

**FREE** Spay or Neuter for the first 100 dogs or cats to apply during March!

**ONLY \$10** for rabies vaccination!

Contact the Humane Society for an application.

## Spring Events



### ADOPT-A-THONS

At PetsMart in Johnson City  
March 7, 2015  
March 21, 2015

### DOGWOOD CATTAILS BALL

May 16, 2015



## Did you know?

About 7.6 million companion animals enter animal shelters nationwide every year.

Of those, about 3.9 million are dogs and 3.4 million are cats.

### Do you want to help our community's cats? They need:

- ♥ Additional foster homes;
- ♥ Barn owners who can care for one or more cats in their barn;
- ♥ Wire cages of all sizes (Ross has them at a good price!); and
- ♥ Kitten food, both wet and dry.



## DOG AND CAT TALES Stories about Fostering

Do you have a soft spot in your heart for dogs and/or cats? Have you ever thought about getting a pet for you or your family but just aren't sure about taking on the commitment of time or money? The Humane Society of Washington County may just have an alternative for you.

The Humane Society strives to save the lives of as many animals as we can and to find forever homes for them, but we need help in doing that. Foster families provide a great help by temporarily opening their homes to one or more animals, providing the extra time to find a permanent home that a shelter is unable to give. Pets in a foster home are socialized to prepare them for their forever homes. A foster family may even nurse a dog or cat that needs some special care. Whatever the level of need, foster families provide an

invaluable service to the animals, to the Humane Society, and to our community.

The process to become a foster family is really quite



simple and begins with the completion of the foster application on our web site. The application asks for basic information regarding your family, your yard, other pets you might own, and additional questions regarding where the animal would live. After the application is submitted, one of our adoption/foster

counselors will call you to discuss the application and answer any questions you might have.

The length of the commitment can vary depending on the type of dog or cat and the number of adoption applications that come in, but you are the one who ultimately decides. All that we ask is that, if for any reason you are unable to continue providing a home for an animal, you allow enough time for us to find another foster home. The Humane Society provides food and covers medial costs for foster animals. The only thing we ask the foster families to provide is a loving home and lots of TLC.

Please contact the Humane Society for an application to foster. Fostering saves lives. Be a hero to some homeless dog or cat!

### You Can Help!

- Donate
- Volunteer
- Foster
- Adopt
- Spay/Neuter

### Contact Us At:

Humane Society of Washington County, TN  
P.O. Box 4090  
Johnson City, TN 37602

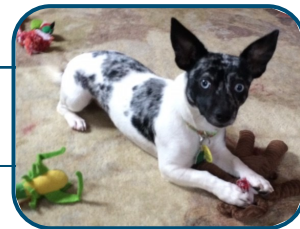
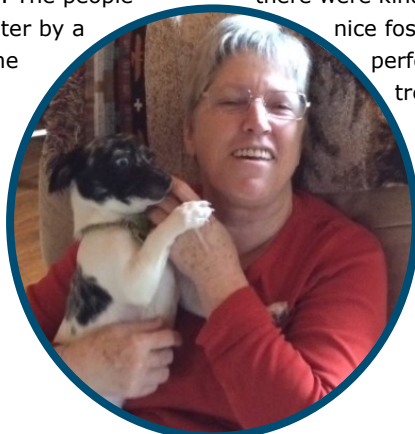
Web: [www.hswctn.org](http://www.hswctn.org)  
Phone: 423-926-8533



## A FOREVER HOME

My name is Luci, and I'm home!!!

I am a six-month-old Chihuahua mix who found myself in the animal shelter through no fault of my own. The people there were kind, but it was loud and scary. I was rescued from the shelter by a nice foster family who took great care of me until they found the perfect person to love me forever. I'm getting lots of toys, treats, snuggles and kisses.



**I HAVE A FAMILY!**





## Letter From the President

Wow, 2014 has been an amazing and exciting year of growth for the Humane Society of Washington County. We have been humbled by the generosity and care of the citizens of our great county. May 17, 2014 marked the beginning of our canine foster adoption program. Through this program we were able to save 400 puppies and adult dogs by placing them in loving foster homes in preparation for their forever homes.

In October of 2014, we welcomed Dr. Cynthia Chambers and her famous furry feline, Lazarus, to our board of directors. She, along with other board members, created the foster adoption program for cats and kittens. We are excited to say that, since this program's inception, over 100 cats and kittens have already passed through the program into loving permanent homes.

Through both these programs, all animals are completely vetted — up-to-date on their vaccines and spayed or neutered.

Our spay/neuter program continues to thrive and be extremely beneficial within our community to end the overpopulation of pets. In 2014, 1200 animals, including our foster animals, were spayed and neutered, saving thousands of unwanted births. A heartfelt THANK YOU to our foster homes and our dedicated volunteers for making this happen. In 2015, things will be even better.

Oh, one more thing, rumors are flying that we have a home!!!! Let me confirm that, YES WE DO. Stay tuned, more details will be arriving soon.

Many thanks,

Luci Grandy  
President



**The Humane Society of Washington County is a local, independent organization and is not a chapter or affiliate of any national organization such as the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) or the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA). Your support of the Humane Society of Washington County, TN directly helps animals in your community.**

