

# SOCIETY SCOOP



The Humane Society of Nelson County Newsletter



## The donation we wish you'd give

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## Applause!



In late February, Judy Cooke, a retired pathologist, retired after 20 years as Director of Animal Services, and in effect, Executive Director, for the Humane Society. Since 2012, that also meant being the Nelson County Animal Shelter Director by contract with county government. In the last 25 years, she worked tirelessly to accomplish significant progress in companion animal welfare in our county and in a 2016 study by the University of Kentucky, we were among only 18 Kentucky shelters considered best in the state. Only 12% of Kentucky's counties met

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# Applause!

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the standards set forth by Kentucky state law and we were one of them. Judy was recognized as Standard Communications Volunteer of the Year in 2006 and she was a member of the Animal Control Advisory Board from 2004-2008.

"I officially handed over the titles and more importantly, the work and responsibility, to one of the most capable people I know, Dr. Deborah Perkins. What could be better than relinquishing all these duties to a veterinarian, and in particular, one who was instrumental in starting the Humane Society of Nelson County in 1994? When I walked into the shelter in January of 1998, my intention was to spend a couple hours each week working with the cats. Not sure what happened to change that, but it was obvious there was so much to be done to make our shelter one of the best in the state, and I knew we could do it," Judy said. "Companion animal welfare has come a long way in the past 20 years, and will continue to get better due to the efforts of caring people. There is still so much to be done, and I leave, totally confident that Dr. Perkins and her staff, with assistance from our county government, will keep moving forward."

## *Important goals met during Judy's tenure:*

### **Facility improvements:**

**2005** - Construction of an on-site clinic for spay/neuter of all shelter animals before release to new owners and for low/no cost spay/neuter for pets of low income owners, primarily cats. Upwards of 12,000 animals have had surgery at this clinic, resulting in an actual decrease in annual intake of animals, down 1,000 from the worst year, 2009, when 3,500 entered the shelter. This clinic was christened the Judy Cooke Spay and Neuter Clinic in 2016.

The 2,000 sq ft concrete block building opened in 1996 and was a huge improvement over housing dogs in an unheated barn, but it was in dire need of indoor-outdoor runs, sinks and cabinets in cat rooms, and another exterior door. It was also undersized from the start, housing both Humane Society and county Animal Control dogs and cats.

**2007** – Construction of a state of the art adoption kennel, built to attract more people wanting to acquire a pet. The 10

run facility was open, well-ventilated, with acoustical ceiling to decrease noise and adequate lighting, leading out into a fenced exercise yard. Later that same year, county government built a separate intake kennel (for stray and quarantine dogs), opening up much needed space in the original building.

**2008** – Remodeling of the original building into a main office, volunteer area, and cat housing, planned and funded by the Humane Society.

### **Program development:**

**Adoption Program:** Though an adoption program was in place even before the 1996 shelter was built, it was greatly improved by two modifications: requiring spay/neuter to be done before release of a pet to a new owner (2003), and addition of microchipping for every animal adopted by an individual (2006). More exposure for adoptable pets was accomplished by joining Petfinder.com in 2001, and by increasing use of social media in recent years.

**Spay/Neuter Assistance Program:** In 1999, the first PAL (Prevent a Litter) Program was set up to make spay/neuter more accessible to low-income owners by offering financial assistance for surgeries to be done at local veterinarians. Later, Spay/Neuter Assistance Programs were funded by grants the Humane Society received from various organizations, including the DJT Foundation (established by Bob Barker, The Price is Right), PetSmart Charities, Two Maudes, and the Kentucky Dept. of Agriculture. After our clinic was opened, many surgeries were done there where it was more cost-effective.

### **Additional Funding for Operation of the Animal Shelter:**

Operating the best shelters often requires more than rural county governments can budget and may depend on the presence of an active humane society. Thanks to our donors, grants, fundraising, and fees for adoptions and clinic, our group was able to add 2-1/2 million dollars to this cause over the last 20 years.

**Humane Education and public awareness:** Local media such as The Kentucky Standard, PLG-TV, and WBRT have been incredibly supportive of humane society efforts to get information to the public increasing public awareness and

## In Memory of Dennis Brock

Dennis Brock, 75, passed away November 4, 2018 from heart and kidney failure. He was born in Hammond, Indiana but spent his youth in Galesburg, Illinois. He enlisted in the Air Force and was trained as a Russian linguist, eventually serving the the Security Services in Peshawar, Pakistan. He and his wife, Gailyn of 39 years, traveled extensively and spent winters in Milton, Florida. After retiring from Kentucky Pneumatics of Louisville, Dennis volunteered for the Humane Society of Nelson County and was eventually elected to the Board of Directors. He may be best remembered for his role as Santa Claus for pets. He is survived by his wife, Gailyn Beadle Brock and 6 sons, a sister, 17 grandchildren, a niece and nephew and several great-nieces and great-nephews.



## From Our Veterinarian



**Do you have a silent killer in your yard?** Mushrooms thrive in areas that are moist, have dappled light, and in temperatures between 55 and 60 degrees. Mushrooms can double in size in 24 hours. Because it is difficult to tell the difference between safe and toxic mushrooms, it is best to check your yard daily and remove all mushrooms. If you suspect your pet has ingested mushrooms, seek veterinary attention immediately. Waiting for signs to present may result in death as toxicity can develop in 1 to 6 hours. Vomiting, diarrhea, and staggering are some symptoms. These can be followed by liver and kidney damage. For more information on toxic mushrooms, check out these sites:

[http://aspcapro.org/sites/pro/files/zd-vetm0207f\\_095-100\\_.pdf](http://aspcapro.org/sites/pro/files/zd-vetm0207f_095-100_.pdf)

<http://www.petpoisonhelpline.com/poison/mushrooms/>

## Applause! continued from pg 2

understanding of animal welfare problems in our community. Humane Education has been undertaken by several volunteers over the years who have gone to schools and assisted living facilities, and who have hosted groups for visits to the shelter.

Judy will be greatly missed and we are forever grateful for her perseverance and dedication to our county's animals. She will remain as a mentor to us as we continue the path she so diligently paved. Judy will also be helping in the selection and transport of some of our cats to the Cat Cafe in Louisville.

Deborah Perkins, DVM replaces Judy in this role. She is committed to continuing what Judy has started. "Judy Cooke is reluctant to take any credit for all that has been accomplished but we owe her a debt of gratitude. Truly, we could not have done all of this without her," she said. "This is an excellent organization and together we will only get better."

Dr. Perkins is a Colorado native. She was a Neonatal Critical Care Nurse Practitioner in Denver for 10 years before attending Colorado State University College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences. She owned a small animal practice in Littleton, Colorado for 10 years before meeting her husband, the late Don Perkins of Willisburg, KY, and moving to Kentucky. She owned SpecialPets Healthcare Center in Bardstown for 10 years. Dr. Perkins and her husband founded the Humane Society of Nelson County, putting an end to gunshot euthanasia at the shelter and solicited funds to build a new animal shelter, replacing an old tobacco barn. She has been the shelter veterinarian for 9 years and is a certified veterinary acupuncturist. She established the Donald Perkins Memorial Fund for Indigent Animals in 2010 which continues to benefit needy animals in Nelson County. She lives with 3 dogs and 2 cats.

Sam Taylor is our new medical/surgical clinic coordinator. Lisa Powell is our rescue coordinator. Lisa and Ashley Hall are coordinators of general shelter management and adoptions.



community rewards

## The Donation We Wish You'd Give

When forever homes are not found right away, space is what we need to prevent animals from being euthanatized. Foster families offer dogs and cats important contact with people, children and other pets. Foster families are responsible for daily costs such as food and toys (love and patience are free) but we will take care of all medical expenses rendered at the shelter. Something that prevents some people from fostering is the fear of becoming a "foster failure", that they may become attached and want to keep the pet. It is hard to let go but as has been said, "My heart breaks so theirs won't have to." It is rewarding preventing euthanasia and because so many pets go to rescues, you won't have to keep most animals very long at all. The average time to foster is 1 week to 1 month. Please consider it and save a life!

### Shop at Kroger with a Kroger Plus Card?

Help The Humane Society of Nelson County by registering at [www.kroger.com/communityrewards](http://www.kroger.com/communityrewards). Once registered, enter our non-profit organization number **BM191** to start earning cash for the Humane Society. Please encourage friends and family to register too.



### Do You Use Amazon?

Try AmazonSmile! You can shop as always and at the same time get a donation for The Humane Society of Nelson County. Simply go to <http://smile.amazon.com> to order, and Amazon will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to us.

## OUR WISH LIST

*We have an ongoing need for many items:*



- |                                 |                                      |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Baby food (chicken)             | Gasoline gift cards                  |
| Bleach                          | Laundry detergent for HE washers     |
| Canned dog and cat food         | Kitten and puppy milk replacer       |
| Cat litter                      | Nyla bones                           |
| Dawn dish liquid                | Paper towels                         |
| Distilled water                 | Shampoo for dogs including waterless |
| Dog and cat treats              | Towels                               |
| Garbage bags                    | Hot dogs for giving medication       |
| Blankets, towels but no pillows |                                      |

### *How Your Donation Helps*

- \$200 buys vaccines for 50 dogs and cats
  - \$150 helps provide medical treatment for an ill or injured pet
  - \$100 vaccinates, feeds, treats parasites, tests for deadly disease and spays/neuters a dog or cat
  - \$ 50 helps our gas expenditures for transporting rescues
  - \$ 20 helps an unkempt animal get groomed
  - \$ 10 helps with antibiotic or steroid injections for sick animals
  - \$ 2 buys a toy for a dog or cat, a can of food or special treat
- A donation of any size can be stipulated to go to the Don Perkins Memorial Fund for Indigent Animals to help pets with owners who can't afford treatment for ill animals.



## Why Rescues?

Would you adopt a dog that is timid, undernourished, with breast tumors requiring a mastectomy, severe chronic demodectic mange, yeast dermatitis (skin infection) and yeast otitis (ear infection)? The likely answer is no, unless you have unlimited time and money. Just one year ago, this dog would have no option but euthanasia. Thanks to Empire Rescue, she has her chance for a real family. This is the case for so many of the dogs that come to us. Rescues will take almost any dog that can be treated, as well as healthy dogs, of course. Sadly, our cats do not have such an opportunity so if you have room for one, or two, come see them. If you'd like to see a heartwarming video of Maggie's journey, visit [empirerescue.org](http://empirerescue.org) or [https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story\\_fbid=2018250694933450&id=142486451007](https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=2018250694933450&id=142486451007)



At our general meeting in February, hardworking employees Shelby Clark, Brooke Coffell and Tiffany Ford share stories of just few of the animals they cared for before they went to rescues. Brooke said, "We love each and every one of them!"

## Fun Fundraiser

Smooch Your Pooch February 9 was a bit hit! Many thanks to Brooke Coffell for the beautiful frame for our "kissing booth", Tiffany Ford for props and decorations, Susie Helton for designer cakes, Sam Taylor for our street sign, the many businesses who allowed us to post our flyers, Anna Thomas at Canvas Photo and Film for professional photographs and sharing her profits, and Just Barked for our delectable doggie cookies. With your help, we raised \$800!



## UPCOMING FUNDRAISER

We would like to have a very large fundraiser to include a nice venue, live music, food and adult beverages. We are aiming for July or August. We need people of all skill levels to help with everything from decorations, silent auction donations, parking, guest registration to advertising. If you would like to sign up for a committee, please contact our fundraiser chairwoman, Sharron Blincoe at [sparky@bardtown.com](mailto:sparky@bardtown.com) or Deborah Perkins at [debperkins.dp@gmail.com](mailto:debperkins.dp@gmail.com).

## Special Thanks!

We are especially grateful for a \$2,000 donation to the Donald Perkins Memorial Fund for Indigent Animals from Toyota Boshoku. Rebecca Greenwell and several employees added an additional contribution of \$563. This is already helping several animals receive care they otherwise would have gone without.

Mel Johnson organized a fundraiser with Kroger employees who shared pictures of their own pets at check out. They donated \$1,213, another big boost to our many needs. Thank you to Kroger and each and everyone of the generous contributors!

Conway Heaton, Inc. collected pet toys and food and donated them to us right at Christmas! Perfect timing and we very much appreciated their thoughtfulness.



The Purrect Day Cat Cafe, 1741 Bardstown Rd, Louisville, KY, offers coffees, wines and local brews, grab and go foods, and desserts. The best part? Mingling with adoptable cats! They have placed 600 cats since August and through the Kentucky Humane Society, will be taking some of our young hopeful cats, too. We are so grateful for their help!

## WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS!



**Ashley Hall**, or "Ash" to her friends, is our youngest board member. She is a Kentucky native and an avid animal lover, finding them fascinating and calming. She began her career with animals at a no-kill shelter in 2010. She began working for the Humane Society of Nelson County in 2012, initially assisting in the spay clinic, and she is currently a coordinator of adoptions and a certified euthanasia specialist. In addition, Ash is a Reiki Master. She wants to insure that the Humane Society will be long-lasting, effective and relentless in its mission to help all animals. Ash said, "The Humane Society has given me an outlet to learn and grow, not only in my career, but in my life. I finally have a place where I can apply my passion, compassion and strength. The animals need people to fight for them and I know I always will. I look forward to many years of hard work and success and I hope to improve the life of every animal that comes to the shelter. I gladly serve each furry friend with my whole heart and all of my love." On behalf of all animals, thank you, Ash!!

Rhonda Hagan lives in Bloomfield where she served as Mayor from 2011 to 2018. She has been involved as a volunteer with different rescues and the HSNK in several capacities from fostering, walking shelter dogs, transports, fundraising, and distributing free pet food to pet owners. In addition, she has been to Frankfort for the last five years to lobby for better animal cruelty laws in the state of Kentucky. She lives with four precious dogs Boomer, Toby, Gussie, and Khloe. "I am excited to have the opportunity to serve on the board, which is something I have always wanted to do," she said.



# Tributes

(received October 2018 through March 2019)

We make every effort to correctly attribute your loving donations. Let us know if we have made an error.

## In Memory

- Aurelia Ahern**, given by American Fuji Seal, Inc.  
**Katarina Ballard**, given by Ingeborg Grant  
**Dennis Brock**, given by Sharol B. Squires, J.K. Thompson, Don Portugal, Mary Jo and Edgar Abell, Sarah Bradford, Judith Cooke, Caroline Keeling, Imogene Curry, Carol Sue Fleck, John Dickinson, Richard W. Carter, Jane Hagan, Judith White, Adelia May, Fred and Bonita McMillen and Trudi Maish  
**Natalie Brown**, given by Nancy Talbott  
**Jeff Bunch**, given by Bonnie Cecil  
**Melody Burkhead**, given by Melvin Burkhead  
**Judy Ann Button**, given by William L. Fichteman  
**Teri Edelen**, given by Rick and Alice Burton  
**Mindy Filiatreau**, given by Lisa A Cissell  
**Doris Geoghegan**, given by William Geoghegan  
**Judy Godbey**, given by Barbara Greenwell  
**Jeanette Hagan**, given by Anita Hagan  
**Margaret Hagan**, given by Jane Hagan  
**Keith Hatfield**, given by BHS Class of 1964, Barlow Funeral Home LLC and Salt River Electric Board of Directors and Employees  
**Billy and Maxine Keene**, given by William Leslie Keene Jr.  
**Phil Ledgerwood**, given by Andrea Ledgerwood  
**Tom MacDonell**, given by Donna MacDonell  
**Jackie Neat**, given by Leyden Neat  
**Kathy and Samantha Netherland**, given by Eugene and Linda McMahan  
**Jamie O'Daniel**, given by Sara and Benny O'Daniel  
**Don Perkins**, given by Donna MacDonell  
**Mary Phelps**, given by James H. Phelps  
**Doris Ratliff**, given by Donna MacDonell  
**Joe Seay**, given by Patsy B. Seay  
**Wilma Skaggs**, given by Donna MacDonell  
**Don Smith**, given by Pat Smith  
**Kelley Smith**, given by Ingeborg Grant  
**J.B. Stone**, given by Rebecca Hahn  
**Ann Marie Sutherland**, given by Jerome Callahan, Vicky and Mark Pulliam, Fegenbush Animal Clinic, Strong Spirits Inc., Barbara Fletcher, Gerald and Linda Cook, Mike and Leslie Knight, Zack and Cathy Zueller, Bonnie S. Cecil and Donna Haag  
**Freda Wallace**, given by Carol Hawkins  
**"Autumn,"** given by Bonnie and Fred McMillen, Deborah Perkins, Trudi Maish, Joetta Gentry, Lynn Lenberger, Mary Jo Abel  
**"Barley" Lacy**, given by Penny Spalding  
**"Bear"**, given by Penny Spalding  
**"Benji"** and **"Spot"**, given by Larry Williams  
**"Beloved cats"**, given by Donald Nugent  
**"Boy Howdy"**, given by Mike and Carol Green  
**"Buck" and "Zake" Allen**, given by Penny Spalding  
**"Buck"**, given by Sandra Allen  
**"Charcoal", "Skunky", "Skippy" and "Twinkles"**, given by Dave and Virginia Horlander  
**"Charla"**, given by Marsha Chesser  
**"Coco Marie"**, given by Heather Hurst  
**"Cody"**, given by Linda Clark  
**"Cyril" and "Roxie"**, given by Debbie and Gary Parsons  
**"DeeBo"**, my beloved min pin, given by Vicki Hobbs  
**"Finnegan"**, beloved greyhound, given by the Koomes family  
**"Hannah" and "Buddy"**, given by Charlotte Geoghegan  
**"Harley Cat"**, given by Debbie Aldes/Simply Put Newspaper  
**"Hershey", "Lady", "Tasha", "Buttons"**, given by Donna Paschal  
**"Jusey" Gallander**, given by Rose Marie Taylor  
**"Katie" Blinco**, given by Penny Spalding  
**"Lexi", "Lucky"**, given by Joe and Janice Carter  
**"Maci" and "Louise"**, given by James and Bonnie Warner  
**"Maggie May" and "Spencer"**, given by Sandy McClenahan  
**"Mandy Lynn"**, given by Marilyn Peavler  
**"Max"**, given by Mary Sue Goff  
**"Missy"**, given by Anita Allen  
**"Moonshiney"**, given by Mary Moore  
**"Oscar" and "Cosmo"**, given by Lori and Gary Boblitt  
**"Polly" and "Max"**, given by Donna and Walter Boekley  
**"Rainy" Citron**, given by Penny Spalding  
**"Reba"**, given by Corrine Mastey  
**"Reese"**, given by Ban and Libby Burr  
**"Sandy"**, given by Nancy Dahl  
**"Sassy" and "Oliver"**, given by Robert and Sandra Buckman  
**"Sebastian" and "Tucson"**, given by Thomas and Carla Evans

*continued on page 8*

# Tributes

(continued from page 7)

**"Simon", "Truman", "Cheyenne", "Cinders", "Betty Boop", "Abby the Tabby", "Hershel", "Corbin", "Durbin" and "Jake",** given by Ellen Baxter, Urbana, IL  
**"Terkel",** given by Connie Kehl  
**"Wanda", "Tyson", "Molly",** given by Mark Seay Keeling  
**"Zeus" and "Max",** given by Martin and Tina Jones

**"Jackie Allen",** given by Vicky Pulliam  
**"Mr. Stripey",** given by Edward and Barbara Bell  
**"Sockie"** the cat, given by Linda West  
**"Sparky",** given by Carey Heating  
**"Stella Rose",** given by Mark Seay Keeling  
**"Wookie",** given by Rose Oswald Bradley

## In Honor

**Sharon Blincoe,** given by Cam and Kristen Blincoe  
**Chase Cambron,** given by William Cambron  
**Judith Cooke, MD** given by William Cooke, Carol Keeling  
**Sam, Frank, Audrey and Will Feral,** given by Judy Hiss  
**Susan Gatz,** given by Nora Ballard and Patsy O'Toole  
**Jane Hagan,** given by Jo Ann and Fred Allen  
**Humane Society Volunteers,** given by Dave and Roselle Calisti  
**Sally Lloyd,** given by Viva Lloyd  
**Trudi Maish,** given by Nora Ballard and Patsy O'Toole, Mary Gene Frank  
**Catherine Newton, MD,** who admires your work, given by Gayle Strauss, San Diego  
**Cathy Newton, MD,** given by Nancy Tietge, Erica Strauss, Duncan Strauss  
**Wendy O'Toole,** given by Judy and Jeff Reynolds  
**Mary Spalding,** given by Pauline Johnson  
**Gayle Sullivan,** given by Jean Carol Shields  
**The volunteers who brought me Penny Sofia,** given by Pauline Johnson  
**Jame Andrew Wolf, "Happy birthday, Andrew!",** given by Robert Cecil

**"All animals, past and present",** given by Kimberly Bow  
**"All of our wonderful cats, past and present",** given by Bonita and Fred McMillen  
**"Buddy",** given by Robin Maxim  
**"Casper",** given by Jame and Mary McCubbins  
**"Cody",** given by Linda Clark  
**"Dama",** given by Sister Marilyn Shea, SCN  
**"Ivy" and "Axl",** our wonderful dogs, given by Chris and Jane Harrison

## *Gifts to the Don Perkins Memorial Fund for Indigent Animals*

### In Memory

**Steve Auslander,** given by Diane Thompson and David Ballard  
**Mary Rose Bohn,** given by Deborah Perkins  
**Dennis Brock,** given by Deborah Perkins  
**Judy Johnson,** given by Diane Thompson and David Ballard  
**Eric Milham,** given by Deborah Perkins  
**Don Perkins,** given by Deborah Perkins, Sam Clements, Linda Akers

### In Honor

**David Sledz,** given by Lyda Moore

## *About the Don Perkins Memorial Fund for Indigent Animals*

This special fund was created in 2019 by Dr. Deborah Perkins in memory of her husband, Don. The purpose is to assist companion animals with life-threatening injuries or illnesses that would not receive treatment unless the owners received financial assistance. Often, these pets belong to elderly or disabled people whose pets are essential to their well-being. In 2018, treatment at local veterinary clinics for 48 pets was made possible by this fund. Any donation may be specified for the Perkins Fund. We are especially grateful for Toyota-Boshoku for their major contributions to this fund over the last few years. Please consider donating to this fund

## WAYS TO GIVE

Come visit us or send us a gift by mail to our address (at right).

- Make a gift in honor or memory of a loved one. An acknowledgement card will be sent to the family or to the person being honored.
- Make a secure gift online at [www.ncanimalservices.org](http://www.ncanimalservices.org). Click on "Donations" in the left side bar to use PayPal. All major credit cards are accepted.
- Make the Humane Society a beneficiary of your will or life insurance policy.
- Consider a charitable gift annuity.
- Donate securities. Ask your broker to arrange transfer of funds to the Humane Society account at Edward Jones by contacting Jennifer Newton at 502-349-3070 or by emailing [Jennifer.Newton@edwardjones.com](mailto:Jennifer.Newton@edwardjones.com)
- Bring out supplies for our animals (see wish list in this newsletter).
- Consider clothing consignment donations at JT's Consignments, 222 N. 3rd Street, Bardstown, 349-6937
- We are not able to automatically withdraw monthly donations, however, we will be happy to supply you with pre-printed envelopes for check donations. Call us at 349-2082.



### THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF NELSON COUNTY

2391 New Haven Road  
Bardstown, KY 40004  
502-349-2082

[www.ncanimalservices.org](http://www.ncanimalservices.org)  
[humane-societync@att.net](mailto:humane-societync@att.net)

Our mission is to prevent cruelty to animals, relieve suffering among animals, and extend humane education.

**Animal Shelter Hours:**  
Open to the Public  
Monday - Friday  
10am - 4pm  
Saturday 10am - 2pm

#### **Board of Directors**

Trudi Maish, President  
Judy Cooke, Vice President  
Martha Nest, Treasurer  
Carol Keeling, Secretary  
Deborah Perkins, DVM,  
Shelter Director  
Mary Jo Abell  
Sarah Bradford  
Julie Duncan  
Ashley Hall  
Rhonda Hagan

**THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF  
NELSON COUNTY**

2391 New Haven Road  
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502-349-2082

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## **Earn Money for the Humane Society of Nelson County Every Time You Walk Your Dog**

Earn money for our shelter while walking your dog!  
Go to [WoofTrax.com](http://WoofTrax.com), download the app, choose  
Humane Society of Nelson County and start walking.  
**It's that easy.**

