

# SOCIETY SCOOP

The Humane Society of Nelson County Newsletter



## Keep pets safe this holiday season

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## Bourbon & Buddies A Blockbuster Hit!

Our first big fundraiser ever, Bourbon and Buddies, was held at Preservation Distillery from 7p.m. to 11p.m. July 27, 2019. A \$35 ticket included dinner, two adult beverages, dancing to a live band and access to a silent auction. Tickets sold out two weeks prior to the event; approximately 300 people were in attendance. A 50:50 raffle was won by Sheila Evans, who donated \$500 of her winnings to the Humane Society. A trip raffle to Gulf Shores, donated by Peter and Celeste Dawson, was won by Kit Atable when he obtained the most strands of Mardi Gras beads. Over 60 silent auction items were sold.

The evening opened with a delicious dinner of marinated pork chops and chicken prepared by Chef Bryan Rogers. Susie Helton wowed the crowd with beautiful and delectable desserts of layered cream and cake in three flavors. On the Rocks bartender Nikki Goff served up two signature drinks, Bulldog Bourbon Blast and Alley Cat Strut as well as traditional cocktails, beer and wine. Music from a variety of genres and decades provided by Julia Hood and her band, Scarecrow, had people dancing until after 11p.m.

Money is crucial for us to continue our work, and this last year we struggled when we did not receive any grant money. This event was a big boost! \$37,400 was raised. This funding will be useful

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# Bourbon & Buddies continued from pg 1

for medical care of sick and injured animals, for preventative health care including anti-parasite medications, immunizations against infectious diseases, diagnostic testing for heartworm disease and feline leukemia, and spay/neuter services prior to adoption. Funds will also be used for staff salaries, van maintenance, and gas for transports. \$7,000 will be applied to the Donald Perkins Fund for Indigent Animals that helps us offer limited payment for veterinary expenses to underprivileged families.

Dr. Deborah Perkins, founder of the Humane Society and Director of Animal Services, presented a program introducing the shelter's history and accomplishments. She acknowledged Dr. Judy Cooke for her 20 years of service as director, and the many sponsors and volunteers who made the event possible. Great Dane sponsors (see below), those who donated \$2,500 to the event, were recognized with plaques to commemorate their generosity.



The highlight of the evening was the recognition of 8-year-old Max Hurst and his "best friend and fur brother," a 2-year-old goldendoodle, Chuck. Max and Chuck set up a lemonade stand June 29th at their home. They came to the Bourbon and Buddies stage together wearing matching teal bowties and presented Dr. Perkins with the \$1,248.46 they raised for the Humane Society. Max charmed the audience with a speech he wrote himself, opening with, "How's everybody doing tonight?" He offered the microphone to Chuck,

who gave it an enthusiastic lick. Max and Chuck received a plaque to honor them.

Dr. Perkins ended her talk with a touching montage of photos of rescued or adopted animals set to the moving song—"Rescue," by Lauren Daigle.



Max and Chuck with parents John and Jina Hurst

The Humane Society of Nelson County and the Donald Perkins Memorial Fund for Indigent Animals wish to thank those who sponsored our fundraiser, Bourbon and Buddies. This event would never have happened without the support of the community. We raised \$35,000!

**Sponsors of cash or in-kind contributions:**

**ALLEY CAT SPONSORS \$250-\$400**

- Dr. and Mrs. Joe Pat Taylor, Bardstown Animal Clinic
- Bill Barnes
- Charlie Blincoe, Kentech Machinery
- Sam Clements
- Chucky Hall, H & M Roofing
- Drs. Mike Sewell and Judy Cooke, Fox Hill Farms
- Polly Hall
- Norma Jean Haydon
- Laura Lawson, Citizens Union Bank
- Mattingly and Howell Orthodontics
- Carlisle Rhodes

**Bourbon & Buddies**  
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**CHIHUAHUA SPONSORS \$500**

Mary Jo and Edgar Abell  
Bethann and Kit Afable, Serenity Health Ketamine Infusion Clinic  
Beth and Kelly Corbett  
Julie Duncan  
Susan Elmore, Buzick Lumber and Home Center  
Dr. Dena and Mr. Royce Fitzpatrick, SpecialPets Healthcare Center  
Virginia and Dave Horlander  
Bonita and Fred McMillen  
Dr. Lisa Seibert, Bardstown Veterinary Clinic  
Sandy Allen and Penny Spalding, Penny's Petsitting  
Dr. Ron Shrewsbury, Shrewsbury, Claywell and Oliver Dentistry  
Shari and Frank Stackhouse  
Frank Wilson, Wilson and Muir Bank  
Kyle Lax, Workout Anytime  
Jean Burgess and John Swindells

**BEAGLE SPONSORS \$750**

Dr. Timothy Hanna, Hanna Foot and Ankle  
Boone's Butcher Shop  
Tommie Hurst, Bardstown Mills  
Robbie Polin, Springfield State Bank

**LABRADOR RETRIEVER SPONSORS \$1,000**

Peter and Celeste Dawson, Save-a-lot Market  
Jim and Sue Fawkes

And a special thanks to our three

**GREAT DANE SPONSORS \$2,500**

The Ron Perkins Family—Ron, Pam, Tanya, Darren, Ryan and Melissa  
Ms. Gayle Sullivan  
Anonymous donor

So much goes into planning an event like this, and many worked very hard to see it to completion. There were many donors of lesser cash contributions and silent auction items, all of which were greatly appreciated.

**Special mention goes to the following contributors, volunteers and staff:**

Mary Jo Abell for acquiring rent-free tablecloths, beverage

donations and needed bar items  
Bluegrass Bridal for tablecloth donations  
Channel 6 TV  
Ashley Downs and Lori Daniel, Heaven Hill Distillery  
Julie Duncan for tablecloth donations and decorations  
Susie Helton for desserts  
Heaven Hill Distillery for many beautiful baskets, cash donation  
The Kentucky Standard and PLG TV  
Trudi Maish for helping with set-up and clean-up, shopping for bar items and providing original photographs to enhance the space  
Martha Nest for tableware and event consultation  
Preservation Distillery for discounting venue rental and providing bourbon  
Lori Sexton, Heaven Hill, for many auction items  
Penny Spalding, Penny's Petsitting, for event promotion and sponsor solicitation  
Kathy Tatman for lending additional tables  
Sam Taylor for flyer design  
Set-up/clean-up crew, event staffing: Sarah Bradford, Shelby Clark, Sam Clements, Brooke Coffell, Chuck Dickerson, Maddie Dieterlen, Tanya Dieterlen, Tiffany Ford, Jane Hagan, Rhonda Hagan, Ashley Hall, Bonita McMillen, Ron and Pam Perkins, Sophia Perkins Lisa Powell, Tisha Stahler, Sam Taylor, Missy Yates  
Donna Willis, Woodford Reserve, for silent auction items  
WBRT Radio  
WOKH Radio, Heidi the Radio Goddess



Greeting guests: from left to right, Shelby Clark, Lisa Powell, Sam Taylor, Tisha Stahler. Stuart Zahalka looks on.

# Bourbon & Buddies Event Photos

Ron Perkins Family:  
Melissa, Ryan, Darren,  
Tanya, Ron, Pam



Deborah Perkins  
with  
Max & Chuck Hurst



Julia Hood  
& Scarecrow



Ashley Hall with  
Chuck Dickerson



Jane Hagan,  
Judy Cooke,  
Sharron Blincoe



Patsy O'Toole, Nora  
Ballard, Susan Gatz,  
SCN Trudy Maish



Gayle Sullivan



Deborah Perkins  
& Sam Clements



## Friends for Life

Chevy and Baby were unconcerned about their future. They had a family and they had each other. That is, until January of this year when their owner could no longer provide for them. Chevy is an 8-year-old hound mix that doesn't realize that he's not a puppy anymore. Chevy loves to play and enjoys running around the yard. He cannot bear to be away from his best friend, Baby; he becomes restless and anxious without her. They had lived their whole lives together. Although Chevy is a gentle dog, he acted territorial in his cage, which was off-putting to potential adopters. Baby is a 10-year-old German shepherd mix. It was hard to find a home that could take both dogs, so for 7 long months, they stayed with us. Yes, their cage was clean. Yes, they had a comfortable bed, good food, daily exercise and lots of TLC from our caring staff. Yet, none of that compares to a real home. A forever home with a real family.



Lawrence Carollo  
and Chevy

At a small fundraising event in Mt. Washington in early August, Mr. Lawrence Carollo saw their photos and fell in love with them both. Mr. Carollo is retired from the army where he used to train dogs. He shares his home with one other dog and five cats but figured he could make room for two more. The shelter staff bathed and brushed Chevy and Baby for their debut. Mr. Carollo came to visit. Tails wagging, the dogs burst into the visitation room and immediately introduced themselves to their new owner. Tears glistened in his eyes. He already loved them.

## A Look into the Heart of a Shelter Employee

Working in a shelter is sometimes a thankless job. Our employees have hearts of gold and get them broken over and over, but they keep showing up. This is how it feels from the perspective of Brooke Tayler Dawn Coffell. She is 22 years old and has worked at the shelter for one year. She works part-time for us and part-time for Nelson County Animal Control.

*A little over a year ago I stumbled upon an opportunity that has entirely changed my outlook on life and has become something much more than I could have imagined. It has made me stronger. It has taken away so many of my fears. It has given me purpose, and gratitude.*



Brooke Coffell

*Since working for The Nelson County Humane Society I've learned so much. I also accepted a second position with animal control, and now I'm learning even more in regard to animal care and welfare.*

*A year ago, when I first sent in my resume, I never imagined I would find my calling, my sole purpose. The things that have always comforted and intrigued my soul are animals. For me to find a passion and career all in one is such a blessing.*

*My job is so rewarding. When I can witness the brokenness in an animal's eyes light up because of the hard work and love I put into fixing their tattered soul, it overwhelms me with such an empowering spiritual feeling. To see the change we make as a village in the shelter, witnessing the blood, sweat and tears actually pay off---that is triumph.*

*Where my job can be heartwarming, it is also soul-crushing at times. The calls, concerns and issues we deal with in the field of Animal Control and Care can sometimes be horrible, undefeatable battles.*

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## A Look Into the Heart of a Shelter Employee *(continued from page 5)*

*Kentucky animal cruelty laws stand against the love and dedication we have for the welfare of all animals in this state. Our hands are tied in situations we try so hard to fight, and oftentimes cannot win.*

*Neglect is real. Over-breeding is disheartening. Overpopulation is not a myth, nor dramatized. Lives are lost. The rescue never stops. Living beings are forgotten by families, "families" who give up on them, even when these pets are the most loyal and innocent creatures in this world. It's a hard life for animals. That's why I'll always fight and be their voice.*

*Oh, but how the good outweighs the bad. I've witnessed scared turn into fearless. I've watched "feral" become loyal and trusting. We have helped the starving and weak and watched them blossom back to health. We've saved so many animals on the brink of death. We've sent out hundreds of animals to rescues where they get a second chance at life. Here they are failed by our justice system and their previous families.*

*What we do is hard. Our compassion gets the best of us at times. If you know anyone who works with animals, love them a little extra. What we do is sometimes under-appreciated; our minds, bodies, and souls are affected each and every day of our lives. Our hearts are broken over and over again ... Then comes another life saved, and our hearts begin to heal.*

*Over all, the love from our work stands against everything else. We love each animal that walks through our doors. Animal Control and The Nelson County Humane Society have warriors who cannot be stopped. We are a bunch of determined individuals who just want to make our county, state and world a safe and fair place for animals. We will not stop until we succeed.*

## SPECIAL THANKS TO SOME OF OUR BENEFACTORS

Several people and businesses have either worked to get donations or have sponsored adoption events since March of this year. A very special thanks to all of you!

**Bardstown Art Gallery** held an art show during the month of June. The artists donated their work, raising \$427.

**Bardstown High School Honor Society** raised \$206 for the shelter last spring.

**Bardstown Rotary Club** donated \$500. Pictured at right are Kenny Fogle, Julie Duncan and Howard Keene.

**CashACheck** in Mt. Washington held a silent auction August 3, donated a large amount of food and supplies and paid half of the adoption fee for a pair of special dogs, Baby and Chevy (see article in this issue). They raised \$384.



**Cox's Creek Elementary School** invited shelter worker Brooke Coffell to speak there in April of this year. The children delighted in a visit from Levi, a 3-4-year-old mountain cur mix. He visited five classrooms before entertaining an assembly in the gym. Grades kindergarten through fifth had jars in which children could drop donations. Some even brought their piggy banks from home. The children raised \$650 for the Humane Society!



Special Thanks (continued from page 6)

**Girl Scout Troop 329** donated \$50 during their tour of the shelter on March 30, 2019. Accompanied by Troop Leader Ms. Brittany Chesser, scouts Sadie Peak, Aubree Chesser and Cora Messer heard a presentation on animal care and adoptions and visited with Judy Butcher's therapy dog, Lexi.



**Max Hurst and "Chuck"** (left) for having a lemonade stand and donating "every penny" to the Humane Society. Total raised: \$1,248.46. Max and Chuck were honored at the Bourbon and Buddies fundraising event.



**Kroger's Mel Johnson** organized a fundraiser and a food and supply drive on July 13, **Paws for a Cause**. \$1,074.77 was raised, and our van was FILLED with much-needed items including paper towels, bleach, dog and cat food, cat litter, pet toys, and laundry and cleaning supplies. Pictured: Kroger employees Phyllis Brown, Angela Kirsch, Caitlin O'Bryan, Kennedy Brown, Mel Johnson and miniature Aussie Jazzy, who belongs to Julie Duncan.



**Sophia Perkins, and Jonah and Isabella Parrish** saved money earned from selling things they made and went on a shopping spree for food, toys and many other necessities for our shelter animals. Sophia and her cousin, Maddie Dieterlen, were also a big help setting up chairs in preparation for Bourbon and Buddies.



**Tractor Supply** August 24 yielded a lot of pet food and supplies.

**Shoe Sensation** September 28, donation pending at press time.

**Dippin' Dogs**, our annual pool party, took place September 17, 2019. 133 dogs and over 200 people attended. A good time was had by all.



Thanks to all participants! The mermaid pooch is Daisy Dawg, owned by Ruth Lancaster.

