

SOCIETY SCOOP

The Humane Society of Nelson County Newsletter



Humans aren't the only ones suffering from the effects of COVID-19

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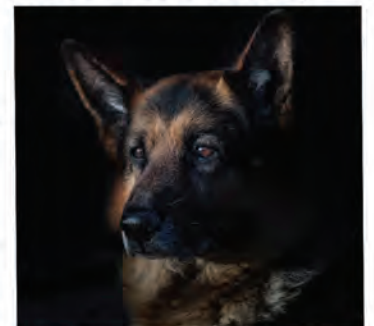
New COVID-19 Infections in Animals

A German Shepherd dog with respiratory illness became the first dog in the U.S. confirmed to be infected with SARS-CoV-2, the organism responsible for COVID-19. On June 2, the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service reported that the dog lived in New York state and was expected to make a full recovery. Another dog in the same home had a positive antibody test, but was not ill. The dogs lived with two people who developed signs consistent with the disease.

Two cats in Illinois and Minnesota, respectively, were also infected this spring. Only a small number of animals worldwide have been confirmed to be infected, mostly after contact with people sickened by the virus.

In a statement from the APHIS, it was announced that "We are still learning about SARS-CoV-2 in animals, but there is currently no evidence that animals play a significant role in spreading the virus.

Based on the limited information available, the risk of animals spreading the virus to people is considered to be low. There is no justification for taking measures against companion animals that may compromise their welfare."



continued on page 2

COVID-19 Infections in Animals continued from pg 1

Less than 20 animals worldwide have tested positive and there are no reports that pets are a source of infection in people. In April, APHIS confirmed infections among tigers and lions at the Bronx Zoo, and Dutch authorities reported infections among minks on commercial farms.

Can Dogs Screen for COVID-19?

A new study is under way at the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine to determine if dogs trained to detect virus can do so, especially in asymptomatic patients. It is well known that dogs can detect ovarian cancer, bacterial infection and nasal tumors. Scent detection dogs pick up low concentrations of “volatile organic compounds” present in human blood, saliva, urine, sweat and breath. A French study using eight German Shepherd dogs showed 95% accuracy. Four of the eight dogs were accurate 100% of the time. Their study indicates more accurate results than some of the current COVID-19 tests. These dogs could be invaluable at large gatherings such as sporting events, airports, hospitals and schools.

Reference: Grandjean D, Tourtier J-P, Julien-Lecocq C, et al. Detection dogs as a help in the detection of COVID-19 Can the dog alert on COVID-19 positive persons by sniffing axillary sweat samples? Proof of concept study. bioRxiv. Published June 5, 2020

Humans Are Not the Only Ones Suffering the Effects of COVID-19 by Amy Taylor

For two months this spring, state government shut down spay/neuter clinics like the one the Nelson County Humane Society operates in order to halt the spread of the coronavirus and conserve masks and gloves for human health care needs.

“At that time the government did not consider spay and neuter clinics to be essential services,” said Vet Tech Samantha Taylor, who works at the local shelter. “To make matters worse, it was the peak of cat breeding season, so people brought us litter after litter after litter, as well as pregnant cats and females in heat. Normally we would avoid unnecessary euthanasia by spaying those females in our clinic.”

**THE
CORONAVIRUS
IS STILL
HAVING A
STRONG
IMPACT.**

Samantha Taylor,
Vet Tech

“As an open admission facility, the Humane Society must accept every animal surrendered to it,” Taylor said. With little room to house kittens, euthanasia numbers increased, a heartbreaking reality for the staff.

Staff members usually work with rescue organizations that transport animals to homes outside of the county when the shelter is over capacity. But due to COVID-19 restrictions on travel and Canadian border closure, the rescue organizations couldn’t accept as many animals this spring.

In addition, “we couldn’t do our usual fundraising events because people had to stay home to avoid catching the virus,” Taylor said. “Donations were also down due to economic hardships the community faced during that time.”

“The coronavirus is still having a strong impact,” the vet tech said. “We have to limit how many people come into the shelter. We have to practice social distancing, wear masks and, sanitize our hands.”



(continued from page 2) Now that the shelter's doors are open again for spaying and neutering, recommended COVID-19 protocols are being followed, by limiting the number of visitors, volunteers and children allowed in the building. Sanitation practices are in effect, according to Taylor.

Curbside pickup

Deborah Perkins, DVM, shelter veterinarian and Humane Society director, is grateful the clinic is open again. "Due to social distancing requirements, we now offer curbside drop off and pickup of pets scheduled for surgery," Perkins said. "Facial coverings are required to enter any part of the facility. When possible, limit the number of family members entering the building with you. Please bear with us as we try to keep our staff and clients safe and healthy during the COVID-19 pandemic."

Tiger infected

In early April a tiger in a New York zoo was tested for a viral infection after several lions and tigers showed symptoms of respiratory illness. This was the first tiger confirmed to have SARS-CoV-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19 in humans) by the USDA's National Veterinary Services Laboratory. Public health officials believe these large cats became sick after being exposed to a zoo employee who was actively shedding the virus.

ASPCA evidence

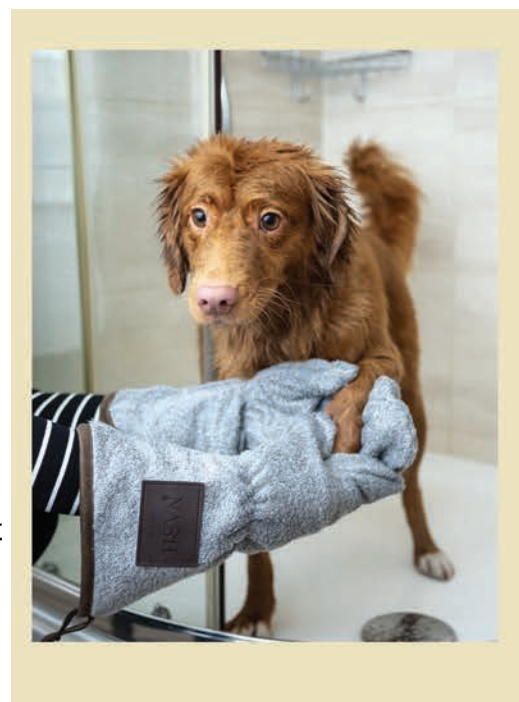
Based on current American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals evidence, companion animals such as dogs and cats do not play a meaningful role in the transmission of COVID-19. At this time, there is no evidence to suggest that any animals, including pets or livestock, can spread the COVID-19 infection to people.

Keep your family and your pets healthy

Always wash your hands--and your children's--after handling or being around animals and their waste, food or supplies (like cages, water bowls, toys, beds, leashes, etc.). This is especially important before handling baby bottles and pacifiers, holding infants, or interacting with anyone 65 or older.

As a precaution, always supervise children around pets. Don't let them hold pets close to their faces or allow pets to lick their face or mouth.

Clean up after animals properly. Clean cages, habitats and supplies outside the home, if possible, to avoid contaminating surfaces. If that's not possible, clean them in a laundry sink or bathtub, then disinfect that area immediately afterwards.



Fabulous Feline Fosters

Although there are not many rescue groups for cats, we do work with a few. Rescues take some of the burden off shelters by taking what animals they can and finding homes for them. Pictured here is one of our tiny ones with Kate Spencer, foster mom and director of Itty-Bitty Kitty Rescue. Special thanks to Jane Hagan and Sarah Bradford for taking care of this kitten and so many others. Jane has saved many hapless kittens from yard sale give-aways and she and Sarah have fostered many kittens for us. Judy Cooke and Julie Duncan are also regular foster moms.



The Long Road Home

For about two years, the Humane Society of Nelson County has actively placed many animals in permanent homes through the help of rescue groups. One person who has been a godsend in this effort is Chuck Dickerson. Chuck has been helpful around the Humane Society for many years by cleaning and feeding our animals. Since March, he has been driving a bus full of rescue animals to Erie, Pennsylvania. It is an arduous 800-mile roundtrip that starts every other Saturday morning at 6 a. m. Starting in Nelson County, Chuck, along with volunteers and employees, loads up our animals and heads to Lexington, where representatives from several other counties meet, bringing more animals. Chuck drives a large motor coach, probably a retired party bus, that has duct tape over some of the deeper scrapes in the body. Travel logs are completed, and more animals are put into the taxi. Chuck fuels as needed, and inspects the animals at each stop. There have been as many as 67 animals in his bus. Although most of the animals are dogs, a few cats go along. One Sunday per month, Chuck transports five or six animals to Louisville, where they will meet up with a Minnesota animal rescue service.

Arriving in Erie, the animals are given to other rescue drivers and sent to their final destinations in New York, Minnesota, New Hampshire, Connecticut and Canada. The animals are well-behaved, calming down to the sound of the radio a few miles down the road.



Chuck pictured here with Yeti and Michael Thompson

On occasion, a big dog has damaged a cage badly enough to get loose in the bus, only to come to the front and sit looking out the window. Chuck has never lost an animal or experienced a serious mishap.

He has been a school bus driver for the Nelson County Schools for thirty-seven years. While schools have been closed for COVID-19, he has helped deliver breakfast and lunch to needy families in Nelson County. He has also been a foster parent since the 1980's. He currently shares his home with two sibling foster children and a miniature pinscher-Pomeranian mix named Yeti.



COLLIN'S CORNER

As told by Brooke Cottell

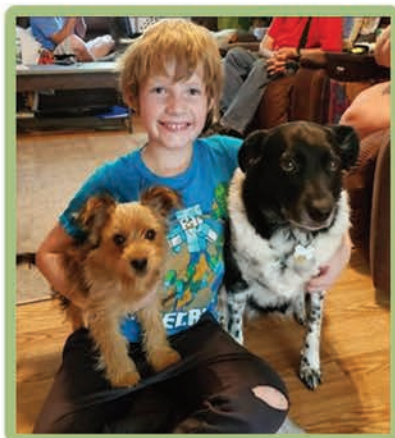
Hi, guys! It's everybody's favorite cat, me, Collin! I hope everyone has been staying safe, healthy and happy out there! I know all of my caretakers here at the shelter have been working hard to keep things as safe, and as normal as possible! Although this virus has slowed our world down a lot, our life here at the shelter never slows down! All of the still need a safe, caring place to go. Of course, they still need my expertise in showing them the ropes on how to be the best pet!

My newest project is being the mascot/model for our Facebook posts! We posted a few pictures of my shelter friends and me, and it brought in the biggest donation of cat food we've ever seen!!! What a show of generosity! We are so grateful for the donors and supporters we have.

To see more of my handsome self and charming words, keep an eye out for me on our Facebook page! We update it frequently with our need for donations, our recent animal adoptions, available pets, and me, of course!

See you next time!
Collin

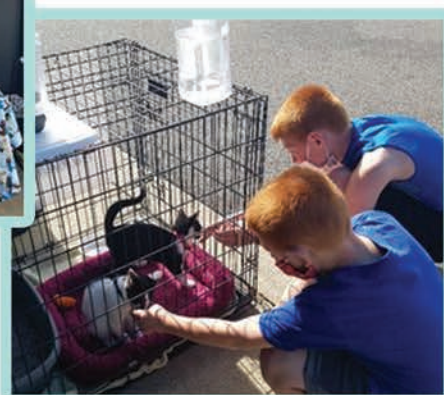
Thanks to so many who donated food during our time of need! Who can deny this handsome guy when he asks so nicely?



Happy Tails

At left: Carter Graves holding his stepmom's dog, Izzy on the right with newly adopted Max, left.

At right: Max enjoys his new place in the sun. Max was adopted by Ms. Yvonne Perez-Thacker after losing her dear companion of 13 years.



Kroger Supports Us!

Kroger hosted a For Your Pets Adoption Event on September 5, 2020. We were represented by Sam Taylor, Lydia Graves and Patrick Hundley. They distributed informational flyers, food samples and coupons. We were able to show off some of our adoptable puppies and kittens --and even a rat! The day was a success, with several adoption applications requested. Food and money were also donated. Thank you to Kroger and all who took the time to stop by our table! Thanks to Patrick for the great photos, and to Tiffany Ford and Sam for the beautiful signage.

ASPCA Recommendations for Pet Safety During Holidays

The holiday season is upon us, and many pet parents plan to include their furry companions in the festivities. As you gear up for the holidays, it is important to try to keep your pet's eating and exercise habits as close to their normal routine as possible. Also, please be sure to steer pets clear of the following unhealthy treats, toxic plants and dangerous decorations.



Be Careful with Seasonal Plants and Decorations

- **Oh, Christmas Tree:** Securely anchor your Christmas tree so it doesn't tip over and fall, causing injury to your pet. This will also prevent the tree water—which may contain fertilizers that can cause stomach upset—from spilling. Stagnant tree water is a breeding ground for bacteria. Your pet could end up with nausea or diarrhea should he imbibe.
- **Avoid Mistletoe & Holly:** Holly, when ingested, can cause pets to suffer nausea, vomiting and diarrhea. Mistletoe can cause gastrointestinal upset and cardiovascular problems. And many varieties of lilies can cause kidney failure in cats if ingested. Opt for just-as-jolly artificial plants made from silk or plastic, or choose a pet-safe bouquet.
- **Tinsel-less Town:** Kitties love this sparkly, light-catching "toy" that's easy to bat around and carry in their mouths. But a nibble can lead to a swallow, which can lead to an obstructed digestive tract, severe vomiting, dehydration and possible surgery. It's best to brighten your boughs with something other than tinsel.
- **That Holiday Glow:** Don't leave lighted candles unattended. Pets may burn themselves or cause a fire if they knock candles over. Be sure to use appropriate candle holders, placed on a stable surface. If you leave the room, put the candle out!
- **Wired Up:** Keep wires, batteries and glass or plastic ornaments out of paws' reach. A wire can deliver a potentially lethal electrical shock and a punctured battery can cause burns to the mouth and esophagus, while shards of breakable ornaments can damage your pet's mouth and digestive tract.

Avoid Holiday Food Dangers

- **Skip the Sweets:** By now you know not to feed your pets chocolate and anything sweetened with xylitol, but do you know the lengths to which an enterprising pet will go to chomp on something yummy? Make sure to keep your pets away from the table and unattended plates of food, and be sure to secure the lids on garbage cans.
- **Leave the Leftovers:** Fatty, spicy and no-no human foods (chocolate, grapes, raisins, macadamia nuts), as well as bones, should not be fed to your furry friends. Pets can join the festivities in other fun ways that won't lead to costly medical bills.
- **Careful with Cocktails:** If your celebration includes adult holiday beverages, be sure to place your unattended alcoholic drinks where pets cannot get to them. If ingested, your pet could become weak, ill, and may even go into a coma, which could result in death from respiratory failure.
- **Selecting Special Treats:** Looking to stuff your pet's stockings? Stick with chew toys that are basically indestructible, Kong toys that can be stuffed with healthy foods or chew treats that are designed to be safely digestible. Long, stringy things are a feline's dream, but the most risky toys for cats involve ribbon, yarn and loose little parts that can get stuck in the intestines, often necessitating surgery. Surprise kitty with a new ball that's too big to swallow, a stuffed catnip toy or the interactive cat dancer.
- **House Rules:** If your animal-loving guests would like to give your pets a little extra attention and exercise while you're busy tending to the party, ask them to feel free to start a nice play or petting session.
- **Put the Meds Away:** Make sure all of your medications are locked behind secure doors, and be sure to tell your guests to keep their meds zipped up and packed away, too.
- **A Room of Their Own:** Give your pet his own quiet space to retreat to—complete with fresh water and a place to snuggle. Shy pups and cats might want to hide out under a piece of furniture, in their carrying case or in a separate room away from the hubbub.
- **New Year's Noise:** As you count down to the new year, please keep in mind that strings of thrown confetti can get lodged in a cat's intestines. If ingested, they can perhaps necessitate surgery. Noisy poppers can terrify pets and cause possible damage to sensitive ears. And remember that many pets are also scared of fireworks, so be sure to secure them in a safe, escape-proof area as midnight approaches.

Tributes (received March 20, 2020 - September 15, 2020)

We make every effort to correctly attribute your loving donations. Please let us know if we have made an error and it will be corrected in the next issue..

In Memory

Jackie Ballard, given by Ingeborg Grant
Miles Boone, given by Karen Oravec, Gary and Billie Routt, Ruth Thompson, Ray and Mary Wimsett Family
Dennie Breeding, given by Jim Abell, Michael and Vickie Baker, George Ballard, Deb and David Breeding, Jamie, Paco and Vicky Daughtery, Michael Dragoo and Carolyn Martin, Thomas and Connie Ewing, Gail Hart, Ricky and Denise Hobbs, Buzz and Sarah Hulette, Richard and Arlene Kallio, Linda Kays, Michael and Wanda Kuehr, Franklin and Jean Lewis, William and Jane Miller, Sherrie and John Morgan (LFWGA), Tony O'Daniel, Charles Rivette, Donna Rivette, Shannon Shelburne, Kathleen Walker, John Webb
William "Bill" Brown, given by Kim Bohan, Rose Marie Taylor
Melody Burkhead, given by Karen Troutman
Scott Cederholm, given by Anne Bell, Bonnie Cecil, Jim and Kathy Laudick
Mike Coen, given by Dorothy Coen
Earnest Combs, given by Rebecca Biggs
Gregory Edelen, given by Sally Mattingly
Bruce England, given by Leonard Medley
Doris Geoghegan, given by Anita Allen
Valla Geoghegan, given by Mary Jo Abell
Judy Godbey, given by Kitty Greenwell
Jenny Hagan, given by Teresa Vanderburg
Margaret Hagan, given by Max Howard
Martha Hickman, given by Rose Marie Taylor
Mike Hobbs, given by Rose Marie Taylor
Judy Johnson, given by Joe Johnson
Judy Johnson, given by Nancy Neel, Joyce Dawson
Kacy Lee Johnson, given by Vicki Hobbs
Billy and Maxine Keene, given by William Keene, Jr.
Susan Downs Simms Macklin, given by Elizabeth Pierce Shaw
Dorothy Nally, given by Dean Nally, Rosemary Parrish, Bruce Rowe
Jamie O'Daniel, given by Sara and Benny O'Daniel
Mary Phelps, given by Jim Phelps
Judy Reynolds, given by Diane Smith
S. Reynolds, given by Leslie Wilson
Harry Sherrard, given by Ben and Elizabeth Burr
Kelley Smith, given by Ingeborg Grant

"Missy, Brat, Smidget, Spot and Shorty," given by Anita Allen
"Copper, Jack, Cosmo and Oscar," given by Lori and Gary Boblitt
"Max and Marty," given by Walter and Donna Boekley
Our brothers, "Jake and Yak," given by Buck, Dee, and Coco
"Oliver and Sassy," given by Sandra Buckman
"Earnest T. Barr," given by Bonnie Cecil
"Maggie the cat and Natalie the dog," by Bonnie Cecil
"Lexi Buther," given by Penny Chesser Spalding
"Daisy Chesser," given by Penny Chesser Spalding
"Simba Moore," given by Penny Chesser Spalding
"Freckles Sorrell," given by Penny Chesser Spalding
"Jake Cheatham," given by Debi Chism
"Sassy Kate," given by Joan and Jason Corbin
"Ava," given by Roy and Jacqueline Drake
"Reese," given by Amy Farrell
Of our past pets, given by Charlotte and Allen Geoghegan
"Max," given by Gary and Mary Sue Goff
"Shadow," given by Peggy Hagan
In memory of my beloved min pin "DeeBo," given by Vicki Hobbs
"Lad," given by Kathy Houghlin
"Zeus and Max," given by Martin and Tina Jones
"Terkel and Sam," given by Tom and Connie Kehl
"Oliver," given by Mary Martin
"Burt and Tibby," given by Donna Reid

In Honor

Mary Jo Abell, given by Anne and Sam Eyle
Edward Bohn, on his 90th birthday, given by Sam Clements
Caring Staff of the Humane Society, given by David and Roselle Calisti
Trudi Maish, given by Jennifer Smith, Peoria, IL
Sam Taylor, Brooke Coffell, Deborah Perkins and all the dedicated staff members at the HSNC, given by Amy Taylor
"Tippy," given by Anita Allen
Of our present pets, given by Charlotte and Allen Geoghegan
"Sam and Will Feral," given by Judith Hiss
"Sadee," given by Ann King
"Sox, the best rescue cat ever!", given by Linda West⁰⁷

Gifts to the Don Perkins Memorial Fund

In memory of Don Perkins given by Pat Jenkins
In memory of Delane Jenkins, given by Pat Jenkins
In memory of Don Perkins, given by Ron and Pam Perkins



Until one has loved an animal, a part of one's soul remains unawakened.

-Anatole France

Special Thanks

Area One Realty for online pet photo fundraiser \$500
Jenny Boone, website design and maintenance
Cash A Check Mount Washington adoption fundraiser
Kroger Community Rewards \$2,309 this year
Kroger For Your Pet adoption event

Newsletter Production
Peggy Waters, newsletter layout and design
Amy Taylor, editing
GBA Printing

OUR WISH LIST

We have an ongoing need for many items:

Monetary donations go toward vaccines, wormers, flea/tick treatments and other items the public cannot purchase for us.



- Cat litter - any kind
- Canned cat food
- Purina cat and kitten food
- Purina Dog Chow
- Pedigree dog food
- Paper towels
- Gift cards-for gas to transport pets to vet or to rescue organizations
- Cat toys - they love little fuzzy mice
- Dog toys
- Canned dog food
- Purina Puppy Chow
- Liquid laundry detergent
- Printer ink cartridges - Epson 212

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.

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.humanesocietyofnelsoncountyky.com Click on "Donations" on 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.
- 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, 502-349-6937.
- 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 502-349-2082.



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

www.humanesocietyofnelsoncountyky.com
humane-societync@att.net

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

Animal Shelter Hours:
Due to COVID-19
please call **502-349-2082**
to make an appointment
before you come.

Board of Directors

Deborah Perkins, DVM,
Shelter Director
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Return Service Requested

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Charity Begins at Home...

...and stays here, in Nelson County, when you make a donation to the Humane Society of Nelson County. Our humane society is a local, non-profit organization. As are all local humane societies. National organizations, like the Humane Society of the United States, the ASPCA, and American Humane Association, are wonderful resources for information, education and promotional ideas, and they work hard to change federal legislation which affects animal protection and welfare. They do not provide any financial support to us, nor do we share with them the generous donations we receive from our community. Your contributions make a difference in your community.



Photo above shared, and modified from AVMA website

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& Kroger Rewards.

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**community
rewards**

