

COMMUNITY SHOUT OUT

A massive thank you to the team at Two Men and a Truck for running their Movers for Mutts donation drive, benefitting the Humane Society of West Alabama, in September and October. We were so lucky to be chosen as the recipient of this fundraiser.

The community was invited to purchase items for our shelters (food, cleaning supplies, etc) and drop them off in the donation boxes at local businesses. The results were fantastic! Thank you to the local businesses that opened their doors and accepted donations on our behalf. Animal rescue truly is a community effort: we couldn't do it without you, so THANK YOU!

Humane Society of West Alabama

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humaneswa@yahoo.com
humanesocietyofwa.org

Cat Adoption Center
2430 36th Street, Northport
Open Saturdays 10am-2pm
(or by appointment)

Dog Adoption Center
By Appointment Only



UPCOMING EVENTS

2020 Calendars: They're Ready!

The 2020 HSWA Calendars are here and ready to be purchased. We don't mean to brag, but they look incredible this year! Thanks to *Wags to Riches Photography* for the pictures and for designing the calendar. As a fun little extra, the calendars now include "bonus holidays" just for pets, like "National Black Dog Appreciation Day" or "Adopt a Shelter Cat Day."

Calendars will be \$10 each and can be purchased from our Cat Adoption Center (open to the public on Saturdays 10am-2pm) and at our various events in November/December. Supplies are limited so do NOT delay!



Pet Portraits with Santa: December 3, 5, and 8

Santa Paws is coming to Tuscaloosa and he wants to take a picture with YOUR furry friend! Join us at Pet Supplies Plus to have a professional photographer take your pet's picture with Santa! 100% of the proceeds benefit the Humane Society of West Alabama. Sign up on our website (humanesocietyofwa.org) or call (205) 554-0011 (leave a message) to make your appointment today!

Pet Night at Tinsel Trail: December 15

Join us outside the Tuscaloosa River Market 3-5pm for some fun with our adoptable dogs! You can enjoy the trail with your pets, visit with Santa, and chat with our volunteers while shopping for some stocking stuffers, including our new 2020 calendars!

PAST EVENTS

Canine Classic 5K: Kentuck Park

The 17th Annual Canine Classic 5K was a great success! We had over 100 participants the day of the race. The race is one of our biggest fundraisers of the year and we appreciate all of our sponsors, volunteers, and participants. The Canine Classic 5K has been in existence longer than any other 5K in West Alabama. It's always a fun day with lots of door prizes, snacks, and—of course—adoptable pups to meet and greet! We hope to see you on the course next year!

Pars4Paws: Ol' Colony Golf Complex

We had great turnout at our 2nd Annual Pars4Paws Golf Tournament with 21 teams playing in support of the Humane Society of West Alabama. We're so grateful to all the golfers, Mark Hughes (owner of ProKleen) for organizing the event, and Fred Larkin for his assistance with logistics. We're excited to watch this fundraiser grow bigger and better every year!



Follow us on social media!

Facebook: [facebook.com/humaneswa](https://www.facebook.com/humaneswa)



Instagram: [@humanesocietyofwacats](https://www.instagram.com/humanesocietyofwacats) & [@humanesocietyofwadogs](https://www.instagram.com/humanesocietyofwadogs)



Humane Society of West Alabama
BECAUSE WE CARE

Wag Rag & Cat's Meow

Winter 2019: Volume 7, Issue 3

GIVING TUESDAY: DECEMBER 3RD

This year the Humane Society of West Alabama has set a goal of raising \$5,000 on Giving Tuesday and we need YOUR help to not only meet that goal, but to surpass it! But what is Giving Tuesday? Giving Tuesday is a "global day of giving fueled by the power of social media and collaboration. [...] Giving Tuesday kicks off the charitable season, when many focus on their holiday and end-of-year giving" (givingtuesday.org).

As you already know, the HSWA does not get any grants or receive any money from any government agencies or nationwide charities, so we rely entirely upon the private donations of people like YOU! Since we're all volunteers, every dollar you donate goes toward the dogs and cats at our shelters.

This year we have seen a massive increase in our veterinary expenses so our hope is to off-set some of those bills. First, there was *another* crazy Kitten Season that required fully vetting countless kittens. Then we had multiple dogs test positive for heartworm disease, which is about \$1,000 per dog to treat! We've also had big expenses like costly dental procedures to remove broken teeth and surgery to repair broken legs! And above and beyond all our regular expenses for checkups, vaccines, and medication, we also try to help the community with their pets when vet bills become too high for them to manage. This summer, we helped a dog who had been hit by a car have its leg amputated so it could live a long life instead of being put to sleep.

So this year, on Giving Tuesday, join us as we attempt our biggest donation drive yet. We're hoping for \$5,000 but would be thrilled to smash that goal! How can you help? Donate with a check by mail or by clicking the "Donate" button at humanesocietyofwa.org. We'll also have a fundraiser live on Facebook, so stay tuned to social media for more information!



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ON THE COVER

Now that Fall is here, Billy (aka "Charming Billy") is ready for the cooler weather and a home to call his own!

Thank you to *Wags to Riches Photography* for the pictures of our shelter animals that appear throughout this issue: Billy (cover), Shadow (pg2), Missy and Lavender (pg3), and the calendar covers (pg4). *Wags to Riches* is a group of volunteers who photograph shelter animals in hopes of helping them find new homes.



Shadow is all dressed up, hoping for somewhere to go!

SHADOW WILL BE YOUR SHADOW!

This sweetheart of a dog is Shadow, a 1-2 year old female boxer mix. At 45lbs, she is fully grown and ready to leave the shelter life behind and fill someone's home with love.

Shadow is very sweet, but she is a little shy and tentative at first. Fortunately, she warms up quickly and gets excited to be with you! Just like her name, this pretty girl will be your shadow because she loves to be around her people.

Shadow is too big for apartment living and she will need a fenced-in yard so she can have room to run and play. But she is not to be an outside dog

only, because she needs her "people time" inside. Shadow seems to get along well with other dogs and should be fine with children 10+.

We have started on her crate training. Shadow is up to date on her vet care, spayed, heartworm negative and is microchipped. She is on heartworm and flea/tick prevention.

Look at those beautiful brown eyes that are telling you to "take me home!"

To learn about how to adopt Shadow, visit humansocietyofwa.org.



Missy has the saddest little squished face you will ever see!

OVERLOOKED CAT MASTERS 'SAD CAT' FACE

Missy is one of those cats who will automatically tug at your heartstrings because she has such a sad little face. While we think most of that "sad face" is just, well... her face, we're certain a happy home of her own would brighten it up a little! Missy would be a great cat for someone who isn't home much during the day, but just wants a companion with whom to watch TV at night or read a book. She is fantastic at entertaining herself (she plays great by herself) and loves to lounge and look out the window. She's a lap cat too, so that makes her pretty "purrfect" in our books. We do know Missy doesn't do well with dogs because of past trauma with them, but she does okay with some of the other cats (she's an alpha cat). To see more adorable pictures of this little beauty, click on her profile under "Adoptable Cats" at humansocietyofwa.org.



A BOUQUET OF KITTENS

Lavender (left) was rescued along with her mom Margiold and her sisters Tulip, Sunflower, and Jasmine. All these beautiful kitties were surviving off human food scraps and rainwater in an unfortunate situation. They were dearly loved by their caregiver, but needed more help than the person could offer.

We were overloaded with kittens at the time, but their boney bodies were just crying out for assistance. Their mother had had THREE litters in one year, with not all of them surviving. Marigold was just a petite thing herself, but we fattened her up and found her a great home. Now her kittens are waiting on their turn too! Each little lady has a unique "purrsonality": Lavender loves attention, Tulip is a major snuggler, Sunflower is gentle and reserved, and Jasmine talks a tough game, but she's a big softie on the inside! Any of them would make a great addition to any home!

If you're interested in these girls, **our Cat Adoption Center is open Saturday 10am-2pm, or email us to set up a weekday appointment.**

PERFECTLY IMPERFECT

Skittles was brought to us as a tiny kitten with a severe infection in both her eyes. Despite our best efforts to heal them, ultimately one of them had to be removed and the other could not regain any sight in it. So Skittles (now Vega) is totally blind or—as we like to say—she is perfectly imperfect. She was adopted with her foster brother, Jelly Bean (now Altair). Their pawesome new mom tells us that even throughout her difficult recovery, she was the same sweet, fearless kitten. She writes, "you would never know [she's blind] as she greets every person that comes to the house, plays, cuddles, and annoys her brother just like any other cat would. I feel so lucky to have brought home the two sweetest, most friendly cats I've ever met." We're so happy for these two kitties that they get to live the rest of their lives with an awesome family. Congratulations Skittles and Jelly Bean!



ZOEY'S 2ND CHANCE

Zoey was adopted from us nearly 6 years ago, but was recently returned to us. Now she's been given a second chance at a great life! Her new human says, "I wanted a calm, mature dog, and Zoey matched that perfectly! Everything is going so well. She is getting more energy now that she is coming out of her shell. She seems very happy. Just the sweetest dog ever!" What a great ending for our Zoey girl!

MARGIE IS ALL SMILES

This cutie is Margie, a female Pit Bull Terrier mix who is about a year old and will be fully grown around 35 lbs. As you can see from that adorable smile, she's 100% ready to brighten up your day whenever you need it!

She is super sweet and super friendly! Margie enjoys being with you and is very playful. She is still a puppy and will need training and structure to help her develop into a well-mannered adult dog. Yes, she is so cute that she can get away with anything but don't let that influence you!

Margie has shown some issues getting along with some other dogs, so she may do best as an only dog. If you do already have a dog, a very slow introduction will need to be made between them to assure that it is a good fit. Lucky for Margie, we offer trial adoptions to make sure all our pets are adopted into homes that are a good fit for everyone involved: from the humans, to the resident animals, and—of course—the new four-legged friend!

To make an appointment to meet Margie, or any of our dogs, please contact us:

humanswa@yahoo.com
(205) 554-0011



"Turn that frown upside down: SMILE!"