



# The Companion

Friends Forever Quarterly Newsletter



Friends Forever Humane Society

Freeport IL

June 2011

## FFHS flood recovery continues

**By Doug Toepfer**  
FFHS Board Vice President

Rising waters knocked on the shelter's door last July. Without waiting for an answer, they invaded every inch of floor space. The unwelcome visitor left as quickly as it arrived, leaving behind both visible and hidden damage.

Following a February mold survey, cleanup and repair began. The first-floor cat room was the first priority.

An investigation of suspicious areas revealed a complete overhaul was necessary. Volunteers mobilized to remove



(From left to right) Volunteer Dan Bower, FFHS Board Vice President Doug Toepfer and Deb Klages install the desk in the former FFHS board room.

damaged drywall and cabinetry.

Several cat condos were also removed. The cat room renovation was complete by May 1. However, we're temporarily short six cat condos, but the felines get their room back.

The front desk became the next item, which needed attention. Close inspection revealed the platform, elevating the desk, was harboring mold. In fact, a majority of the building material was

found to have mold.

Rebuilding the desk was the only prudent choice. That was done, per staff specifications.

Instead of occupying the middle of a room, the reconfigured desk now sits to the left of the front door. That reorganization has made the room larger and more customer-friendly. The work in the front office is expected to be complete by the time you read this.

Cabinets in the pet kitchen and treatment room; walls behind those cabinets; both "get-acquainted" rooms in the kennel area; back hallway

**Flood recovery**  
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Volunteer Rich Swanson paints the cat room's ceiling.

## Flood recovery

Continued from Page 1  
walls; waiting room walls;  
new office floors; staff  
kitchen; the pond; and  
general landscaping all  
needed repair.

Yes, the list is long  
however the  
accomplishments have been  
great. In addition to the  
volunteer work already done,  
all the duct work has been  
professionally cleaned and  
the heating and air-  
conditioning systems  
cleaned and inspected.

As work continues,  
please stop in and see the  
progress. Taking proactive  
and preventative steps is  
also part of the recovery  
effort—making sure this  
doesn't happen again. For  
example, walls have been

replaced with moisture-  
repellent material and  
condos have been put on  
wheels.

As the summer  
continues, expect to see  
other preventive measures  
taken.

Dedicated and loyal  
volunteers made completing  
this work possible. Some of  
whom have spent every  
weekend since March  
working diligently for the  
animals. The volunteer  
support has been nothing  
but amazing.

Don't be discouraged  
though, there's plenty of  
work left to do. The animals,  
staff and board thank each  
and every volunteer that has  
kept this work moving ahead.

## Get ready for fall rummage sale

The Fall Rummage Sale will be September  
24th and 25th, so all volunteers mark your  
calendar for another great time. Set up date  
September 23rd. Donations for the  
Rummage Sale can be made Friday  
September 23rd, between 8a.m. and 5p.m. at

the Cedarville Community Center or at the  
Forever Humane Society shelter. Pick-up for  
Handicapped or Senior's available the day  
before the sale. Call the shelter at 815-232-  
6164 to arrange a time.

# Oppolds: Dillion a devoted genius

Dear Friends at Friends Forever:

It's with a heavy heart that I tell you that our beloved Dillion passed away on Dec. 10, 2010. He had cancer and died two days after his diagnosis.

This dog, with such great spunk, had been running around chasing wild turkeys in our driveway earlier in the week - it's still hard to believe he went so quickly.

We came to visit Friends Forever to pick out a dog for my middle son, Kevin, who was in fifth grade at the time. The date was May 5, 2001.

Our dog, Tasha, had recently passed away from a brain tumor (a Friends Forever alum). My son, Kevin, immediately picked out a 1-year-old mixed breed dog named Tucker.

He'd been found walking on a road with a frozen tail and nose. No one claimed Dillion. He had a stubby tail due to the frostbite and a permanent scar on his nose.

The Friends Forever rep tried talking Kevin into every dog but Dillion, thinking he'd be too much for us. Our daughter was 6 at the time. Kevin said "No, if I can't have Tucker, I don't want any of them." He was quite the determined fifth grader.

So, we took Dillion home for a weeklong trial. What a joyous day when we returned as a family and my son had taught him to shake hands during that week! Needless to say, "Tucker" passed his interaction test with flying colors.

Kevin re-named him Dillion and he spent 9 1/2 wonderful years with us. We moved to a wooded area in 2007, which excited Dillion the most.

The deer and wild turkeys were annoyed by him, but we always felt safe in the woods walking with him. His blind date with a skunk remains a vivid memory. He was, however, a trooper through the whole mess.



Kevin and the late Dillion  
Oppold of Freeport

Dillion

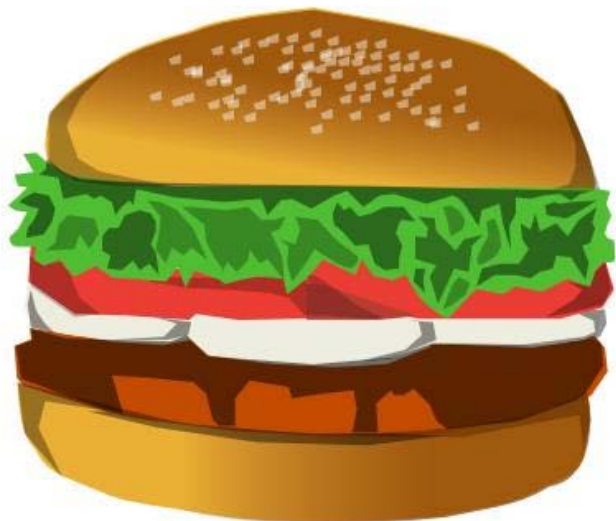
Continued to Page 7

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# Anniversary benefits FFHS animals

October 10, 2010 turned out to be a beautiful day for our 50th Wedding Anniversary. Having been married on October 10, 1960 made it unique: 10-10-10. Our family wanted to give us a party, so, to help the animals, we agreed.

Mike and I grew up in families that welcomed pets in our homes. We wanted our kids to love and care for animals too, so, over the years, we've had many, each one different in its own way. A party poster of our pets throughout the years showed they will remain "Forever in Our Hearts."

Our first home was 848 W. Stephenson St. Ethel Brewster gave us a beautiful long-haired grey kitten that we named Casey. We now have Paris, a handsome black cat, who came to us as a stray in 2003. The party was at the church, so Paris couldn't be with us but was waiting for us when we got home.

We thank you and the Shelter animals thank you for your generous gifts. A home is not a home without a pet."

Mike, Tazzy & "Paris" Christ

## Our Generous Donors

Dave, Sheri & "Amber" Ashley  
Virgil, Judy & "Mandy" Bocker  
Brian & Carol Boeke  
Chris, Amber, Kaine, Gage, "Daisy, Brutel & Zeus" Boeke  
Jim & Susie Boeke  
Troy Boeke  
Tony, Berniece, "Lexie, Cali & Tidy" Cali  
Shirley Cassidy  
Bill, Krystal, "Miss Sasha Lee & Kool Kitty" Christ  
Mike, Tazzy & "Paris" Christ  
Leroy & Norma DeGraff

## Join The FFHS Board

Moving Friends Forever Humane Society forward takes dedicated volunteers and...board members.

Our organization is searching for a few new people to help us not only sustain, but improve the shelter. Would you ponder being one of them? If so, please free free to contact us.



Mike, Tazzy & "Paris" Christ  
Mary Ann & "Callie" Eirhart  
Don & Donna Garrertt  
Jim, Nancy, Haley & "Brewster" Grabow  
Roger & "Foxy" Grabow  
Joan & "Taffy" Hepler  
Mark, Tina, "Mister, Sultan & Max" Hepler  
Diane Jordan  
Don & Deloris Klipping  
Virginia Knutti  
Joel, Diane, Shane & Derek Kunz  
Stephen, Susan & "Keeper" Lafferty  
Lou Lutz  
Mae & "Sasha Jane" McKee  
J.R., Lily & "Sonny" Perez  
John & Sharon Robinson  
Steve, Karen, "Kelsie & Scooter" Schlamp  
Bobbie, "Callie & Mollie" Schoonhoven  
Scott, Amy, Ryan, Madyson, Alex & "Bailey" Schoonhoven  
Pat & "Smokey" Schradermeier  
Nelson, Linda, "Winchester, Cuda, Hemi & Charger" Snavelly  
Dale & Mary Stabenow  
John, Joci & "Mr. Buttons" Swanson  
Bob, Rosie, "Tobie & Patche" Wagens

**Friends Forever Humane Society**  
966 Rudy Road  
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[info@friendsforeverhs.org](mailto:info@friendsforeverhs.org)  
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# Money Matters

**By Tina Sievers**  
**FFHS Board Treasurer**

I should start this with a disclaimer- as I am writing this, I'm in the middle of our largest fundraiser for my synagogue, and my mind is all on corned beef sandwiches and blintzes, not the FFHS budget! Since I'm in an apologizing mood, please know that if we have accidentally left your name off our donation list, please accept my apology...and I take responsibility for it.

I am blessed with two wonderful people who help me with the data entry (Dana Nappi) and sending the thank you letters (Terri Matthews). I want to personally acknowledge their hard work each week. Without their help, my job would be infinitely more difficult.

The "bad news" is the shelter is operating at a deficit this year. We need to pick up the pace on fundraising and/or donations, if we wish to make our 2011 budget. I wish I had a magic answer to solve our problems, but this shelter has and will continue to exist because of the kindness of animal lovers such as you. It isn't easy to ask our 500+ members to continually support the organization in a financial way, but it has to be done. We moved \$25,000 from savings to checking to allow us to continue to pay our bills at time and take care of needed repairs. Our hope is to replace those funds as quickly as possible.

On the "good news" side, the shelter is recovering from the flood. We are investing the grant money we received for flood relief (\$7,000 from PetSmart and \$5,000 from Petfinder Foundation, plus the kind donations of our members), in repairing damage from the flood.

Please know these funds were directly earmarked for flood relief. While the income came to us in 2010, we are investing it (that is a kind way of saying spending it!), in 2011. Our cats will have a better place to stay (I

have suggested raising the prices on our kitty condos, but I was voted down!), our staff will have office space that meets their needs better, and our clients (both two legged and four) will see a wonderful new front area.

There are really only two ways we can balance our budget...increase our revenues or decrease our expenses. I can assure you that we are looking at revenue enhancements.

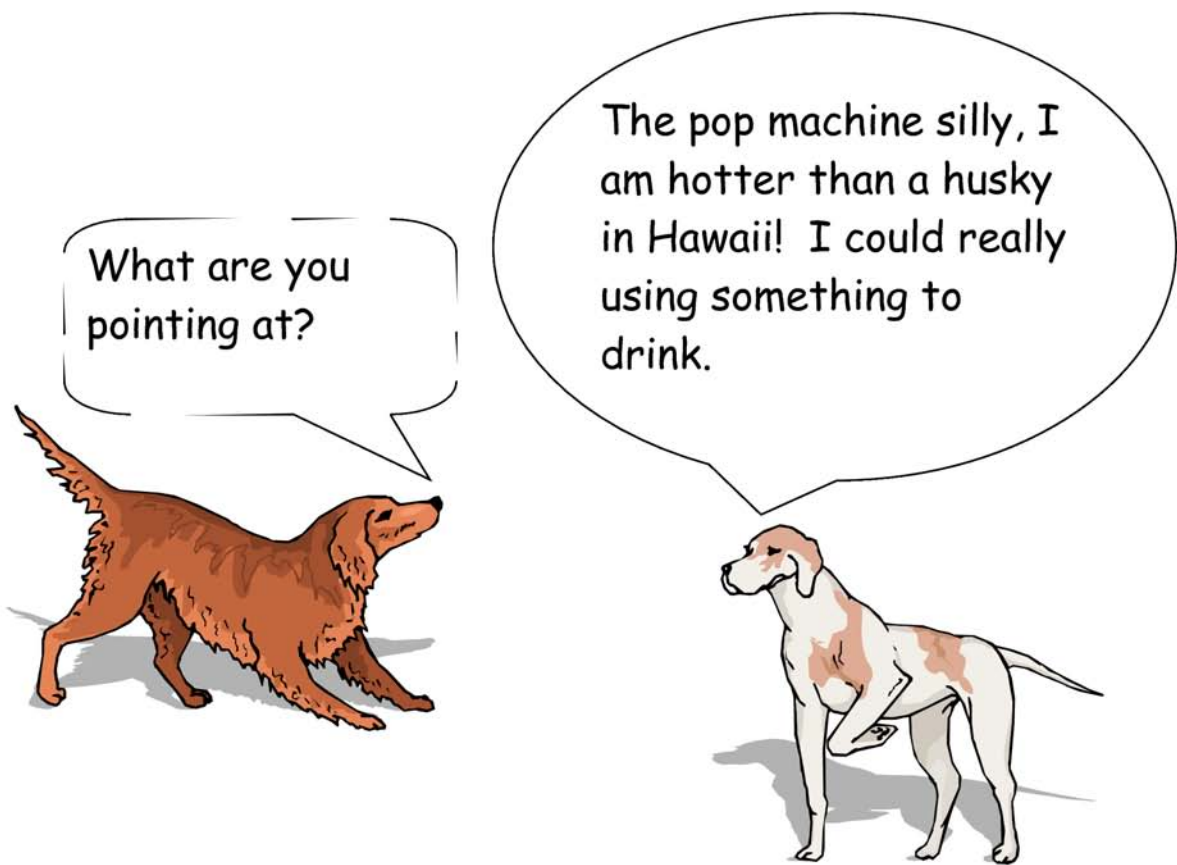
Thanks to the kindness of Ray & Terri Matthews and Doug Toepfer we now have a soda machine. They not only purchased the machine for us, but they also stocked it. The proceeds will go to the shelter.

Our largest expense item is staff salaries. Most of our staff make at or near the Illinois minimum wage. The only way we could make significant cuts in this area would be to cut hours. That would mean spending less time helping our "clients" to become adoptable (through socialization and basic training), and becoming an animal warehouse. As our 2010 results demonstrated, our board is dedicated to finding good homes for good animals...adoptability is the key.

What can you do to help? First, continue your direct financial support of the organization. Second, ask a friend (especially if they have a cat or dog) if they would like to support our efforts. Third, let people know about the dog park...which provides another source of revenue for us (as well as untold pleasure for the dogs!). Fourth, consider holding some sort of FUN-draiser for the shelter. It could be a small picnic at your home or wine tasting or whatever. Whether you raise \$50 or \$50,000, it all helps.

One thing's for sure...we're dedicated to providing a great shelter. Seeing our staff and volunteers dedication reminds me why I support Friends Forever Humane Society.

Remember...money matters...and so do you!



**Enjoy a cold pop or bottled water from the Friends Forever Pop Machine, located in the parking lot by the water spigots.**

**All Proceeds benefit us!!!  
Don't forget to recycle**



# Board President's Message

Wow! What a great start to the spring of 2011. So many wonderful things are happening for FFHS. You really should stop out and take a look for yourself. We're working on an expanded entryway; if you remember the old one, it was pretty tight quarters.

With lots of traffic coming through our doors, this will be very helpful to our staff. The new Cat room is dynamite! The insulation has been replaced, new wall board hung, new lighting installed, the duct work cleaned and the cat condos are now portable.

The old boardroom is now staff office space, helping the staff to be more efficient. Still to come: more fresh paint and new flooring in the kitchen, entry hallway, and meet & greet rooms.

To our many volunteers, may I say your time and talents are most appreciated. We will never be able to thank you enough and hope that the personal satisfaction you receive is very gratifying. If you're not currently an active volunteer, please consider becoming one.

You'll be amazed at how rewarding a couple of hours can be helping our residents! Another way you can help is by underwriting all or part of the cost of the newsletter.

While we think it is very important to have a newsletter, there is a substantial cost involved that could be going towards the care of the animals. Also, if we could get more members who would be willing to receive the newsletter by e-mail, it would make a dramatic difference in the cost of printing and mailing in such volume.

And, from time to time, things come up

that the membership might be interested in, or need to know.

E-mail could get that information out quickly and save the cost of a special mailing. I hope you will give it your consideration and send us your e-mail address.

Viewing our newsletter on our new web site may also be a viable option.

A Big THANKS To Julie Rachlin & Jason Carson Wilson, for the design of our new web site. You can check it out @ [www.friendsforeverhs.org](http://www.friendsforeverhs.org) online.

In closing, common sense in pet care includes spaying or neutering your animals. Uncontrolled breeding is the primary reason all animal shelters must exist.

Help us to spread the word about the importance of spay and neutering companion animals.

FFHS is a place where our fuzzy and furry friends are comfortable and happy as they await their second chance. Please make the decision to join us in our upcoming fund raising drives to maintain our shelter.

This is the opportunity to make a specific contribution and see the results of your generosity. We welcome your ideas and invite you to visit the shelter and fill out a project form. Please help us make 2011 a banner year for FFHS.

Thank you for your continued support.

On behalf of the Board of Directors,

**Brenda Boynton, President**

## Dillon

### Continued from Page 3

Dillon was the most amazing dog. He was my son's best friend, a fabulous watch dog and protector, crumb catcher (no need for those pricey Swiffer's!), exercise buddy, who knew when we were sad and acted accordingly, knew when we were happy and acted accordingly. No words fully explain this dog's intuitiveness. He was a genius in animal form.

So, we just wanted to tell you our little adoption story of Dillon. We're thankful we got the opportunity to "test-drive" him and what a wonderful ride it has been. Dillon will always be #1 in our hearts. Thank you for being his caretaker until we found him! The Bill Oppold Family  
Bill, Deb, Kyle, Kevin and Rachel



# Keep your pet safe **MICROCHIP**



## COMMUNITY MICROCHIP EVENT

**Saturday, June 11, 2011**

Dogs and cats will be microchipped by the staff of Friends Forever Humane Society between 12:00pm and 3:30pm

### **Pre-Register or Walk Ins Welcome**

Register by June 9th  
and pay \$20 per dog or cat.  
Walk ins pay \$30 each

### **Includes Chip Registration**

Microchips will be registered  
with [www.24PetWatch.com](http://www.24PetWatch.com)

### **A MICROCHIP CAN MAKE IT POSSIBLE TO GET YOUR PET HOME QUICKLY**

It can happen despite our best efforts: the family dog slips out of his collar or our cat sneaks out an open door. Any stray animal brought to Friends Forever Humane Society is scanned for a microchip. These small metal cylinders, which are inserted just under the skin

between the shoulder blades, contain a unique code which can be checked against a database for owner's information. Reuniting a lost pet with it's family is what everyone wants. Improve your pet's chance of returning home by having it microchipped.

Go to our website or FaceBook page to print a registration form, or stop by the shelter to pick one up. For pre-registration prices, forms and payment must be received at the shelter by June 9th.



### **FRIENDS FOREVER HUMANE SOCIETY**

**966 Rudy Road, Freeport IL 61032**

**815-232-6164**

Open Daily 12-4pm, Wednesdays 12-7pm

[www.friendsforeverhs.org](http://www.friendsforeverhs.org)

FaceBook:

Friends Forever Humane Society



# Joy of fostering felines



**By Diane Heeren**  
**FFHS Board Member**

I'm sure everyone has heard about fostering children but did you know you can be a foster parent for shelter pets? There are many opportunities to volunteer at the shelter and fostering is one of them. This is one of my favorites.

Shortly after joining the board in January of 2010 I heard we were going to need a foster for a pregnant mother cat. Having several cats of my own and a few empty rooms after the children left home I wanted to give it a try. I decided Hannah, a beautiful gray tiger due any day would be my first try.

On March 15, 2010 I came in to pick up the very chubby momma. She settled in great, in fact so good that the next morning she decided to shred a few paperbacks in the room to build a nest.

By 7:30 that evening she was delivering her first of four kittens. Having always spayed and neutered our cats I had never witnessed that miracle. Momma was so calm and patient, not the screaming crazy

lady I was during labor!

When all was done she delivered two orange, one black and one torti kitten. They stayed with me for eight weeks. When I delivered them back to the shelter I shed tears like any parent seeing their children leave home. I visited often and worried as each left.

They all found wonderful homes and I was fortunate enough to go visit one of my babies now named George.

This year a Momma named Honey Bear arrived from St George Shelter in Mt Carroll due to the loss of their building. Honey Bear was thought to be delivering soon.

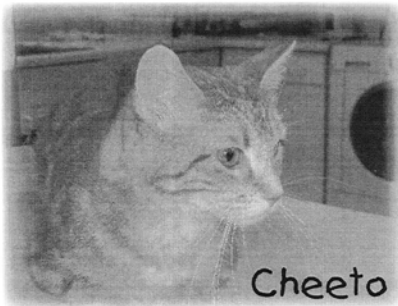
She arrived at our home on February 24th. She was so calm, so loving, and seemed so hungry in spite of the fact she had a very large middle section. Day after day nothing was changing. Finally Carol and I decided she better see the vet as it was thought she was going to deliver on January 18th when she arrived at St. George's shelter.

Dr Bob Ebessmeyer thought we better ultrasound her. There they were, little spines, little heartbeats! Finally on March

**Fostering**

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We are looking for someone to love and care for us.



Cheeto



Bishop

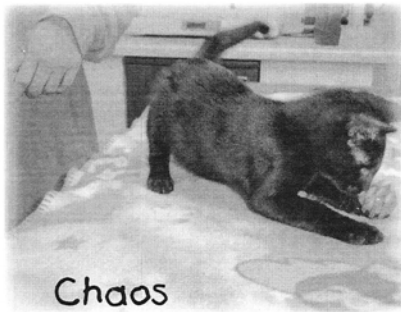


Ruby

Would you come to the shelter so we may meet?



Jethro

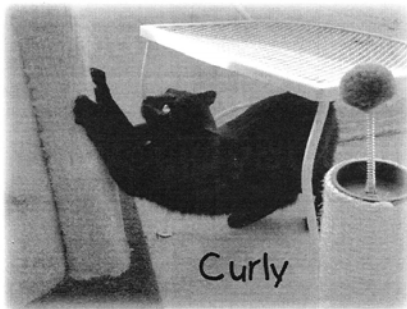


Chaos



Wrangler

Do you think you may be able to help?



Curly

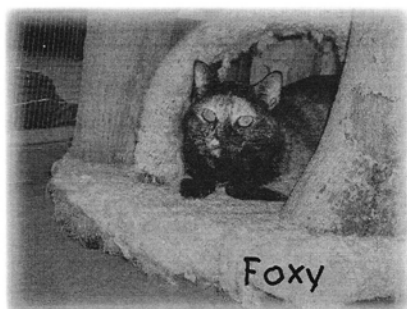


Thumbelina



Dora

Maybe you know others that will help too?



Foxy



Sprinkle



Maverick

We thank you for what you can do.

# Where the paws meet the ground

By Doug Toepfer

FFHS Board Vice President

I was at a FFHS meeting the other night where our editor made a comment about submitting articles for the newsletter. I felt it was time to take on the "proud papa" persona and tell you a little bit about my youngest daughter. However, I must first tell you a little about my oldest daughter.

Jessica is my oldest daughter, half-way between the ages of 22 and 23. She is a very special young lady with a big heart. Over the years, we have purchased, fostered and adopted various German Shorthair Pointers, even raising puppies at one point.

Jessica has always had a special bond with at least one animal in our house throughout her life.

When a special pet leaves this world and crosses the rainbow bridge or a fostered rescue is placed with a new family, Jessica always seems to connect with a new special friend. Her latest friend is Angel, an adopted kitten from the shelter. Jessica also entertains our other two rescued GSPs at home, Buddy who is somewhere around 5 and Macy, our 3-legged wonder who 9 months.

Now back to Emily, my youngest daughter. Emily is wise beyond her 13 years (just ask her) and has always had a fondness for animals and the out of doors. Driven by shows such as Animal Cops and Wild Justice, Emily has wanted to fight for the animals.

Early last year, Emily got an idea that we (there is always a we) could go around to kill shelters, adopt animals that were going to be put down, and give them a new life at no kill or low kill shelter. She began asking relatives for donations and saving any money she could make too

sure she always had enough "animal bail money."

Unfortunately, we found out that other shelters won't keep adopting to the same person knowing that person was then giving them away.

Emily was very upset but was determined to make things work.

Our next stop was FFHS to talk to the new Manager, Carol, and plead our case of wanting to help.

Carol was positive and upbeat, telling Emily she was sure there was a way she could help Emily save the animals (of course, I am giving the abridged version of many conversations). Emily and I filled out a volunteer application and made a new box on the bottom, animal transportation. Emily and Carol came to an understanding that if Emily couldn't spring the jail birds, we could at least provide the getaway vehicle. Emily would be able to use her donations. Instead of paying for the animals themselves, Emily would cover the cost of gas to go retrieve these strays and surrenders from other shelters, pounds, and clinics. The longer we waited the more Emily was able to save.

I can tell you waiting for the first trip was probably more stressful for me than her. Every day, I heard the same thing. "Dad, did you talk to Carol today? Dad, has Carol called yet? Dad, can we just go out and talk to Carol, maybe she lost your number."

Just when Emily thought all the dogs in the world were avoiding her, Carol called about trip. Carol needed a transport from Rochelle to FFHS for a young dog named Jazz. Another problem arose; it had to take place while Emily was in school. Well, by gosh, sometimes dads are softies. There was no way I could let



Young and dedicated FFHS volunteer Emily Toepfer.

Emily miss her first rescue transport.

With her mom's blessing, we took some time off school and the animal railroad was in business. The trips haven't been often but we have four under our belt and another coming soon.

This introduction into FFHS has not only allowed us to meet some very awesome people (thanks Carol, Melody, Andres, Sandy, Janet and Lisa) but also has motivated Emily more than ever for the love of animals. Oh yes, I almost forgot, it is one of the reasons her dad became a board member.

As a father, I am proud of my girls. When others are playing video games, experimenting with life and thumbing their noses at authority, Jessica has joined the ASPCA, is interested in wildlife conservation and being with her best friends who just happen to be four (and three) legged and Emily has chosen to save animals. I have to take advantage of it before she decides boys are cuter than puppies!

# Our generous FFHS donors

## **Chili Day**

Lauri Allen  
Karen Butler  
Marian Fluegel  
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Rick & Connie Heinrich  
David & Nancy McIntyre  
Rita K. Reeder

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Pedigree Adoption Drive Foundation  
Petco Charities

#### **Extra Mile Club**

Karen Butler  
Jonanna & Michael Leopold  
Lori Meyers  
Beth Street  
Jon & Pam Wolfe

#### **Cutest Critters**

Michael & Kay Bach  
Jane Bailey  
Judy Barney  
Wendy Boettner  
Brenda Boynton  
Laurie Broughton  
Mike & Tazzy Christ  
Cleanpro Cleaning Services  
Kenneth Collin

Kenneth Collin  
John & Kay Day  
Judy Decker  
Rosalie Geiger  
Shary Gibson  
Lois Harlan  
Darleen Incelli  
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Dana Nappi  
Jami Nielsen  
Tina Sievers  
Patricia Steele  
Betty Swalve

### **Restricted Donations**

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Connie Kaderly  
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Aubrey Olson  
Rock Valley Cat Club  
Sharon Miller  
Tyra Sparks  
Betty Swalve  
Geraldine Trandel  
Mary Vanraden  
Craig Williams  
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### **Memorials**

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JoAnn Blomquest  
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Bob & Sandy Chapman  
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Paul & Norma Meier  
David & Deborah Meyers  
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D. & G. Moeller  
New Hope Veterinary Clinic  
Northwestern Illinois Reading Council  
Robert & Marilyn O'Hara  
Jill Olson & Thomas Terando  
Bharresh & Bhavini Patel  
Barbara Paul  
Joanne Penbnocvk  
Michael Perry  
Gerald & Ritarose Polley  
Daniel & Marci Prather  
Gary & Nancy Price  
Jill & Mike Rohner  
Karen Sholl

# Souper Friday features FFHS creation

Friends Forever Humane Society was asked to participate in Freeport Downtown Business Association's Soup-er Friday contest. We're so grateful we were asked.

Board Member Diane Heeren and her husband Arlen decided they had a perfect recipe, since it'd been a hit at the German Soup Supper in German Valley. They decided on a German Sauerkraut Soup.

On Thursday, May 12, eight teams gathered at the Freeport High School cafeteria to put together the soups! It was like being on Iron Chef. All the chopping and browning going on made your mouth water.

On Friday, Board President Brenda Boynton picked up the soup and took it to our spot at 9 East Coffee to heat and prepare to serve the crowd. Diane joined her for the serving from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

It was so exciting watching reactions to our soup, which was named Purrrfectly Delicious Sauerkraut Soup.

We were even able to get non sauerkraut lovers to try it and converted them. Many wanted the recipe. Also, we were pleasantly delighted with the donations we received!

Unfortunately, we did not win. We were a runner up. But it was fun and we are already hoping to be asked next year and plotting our new soup recipe.

Here's the current one:

Purrrfectly Delicious Sauerkraut Soup  
Makes 12 appetizer servings or 6 large bowls

1 Pound Kielbasa  
6 Tbsp chopped onion  
1/4 cup flour  
1/2 tsp black pepper  
1/2 tsp dried thyme  
3 cups milk  
1 cup half and half  
1- 8 ounce can sauerkraut

Chop sausage coarsely by hand. Transfer to skillet with chopped onion and lightly brown about 8 mins. Combine the flour thyme and pepper. Add to sausage and brown all together until mixture bubbles up about 5 mins. Add milk and half and half all at once cook stirring until bubbles again. Add sauerkraut and its juice and bring to a boil, the mixture will continue to thicken. You may use lemon juice for tartness :)

## Fostering

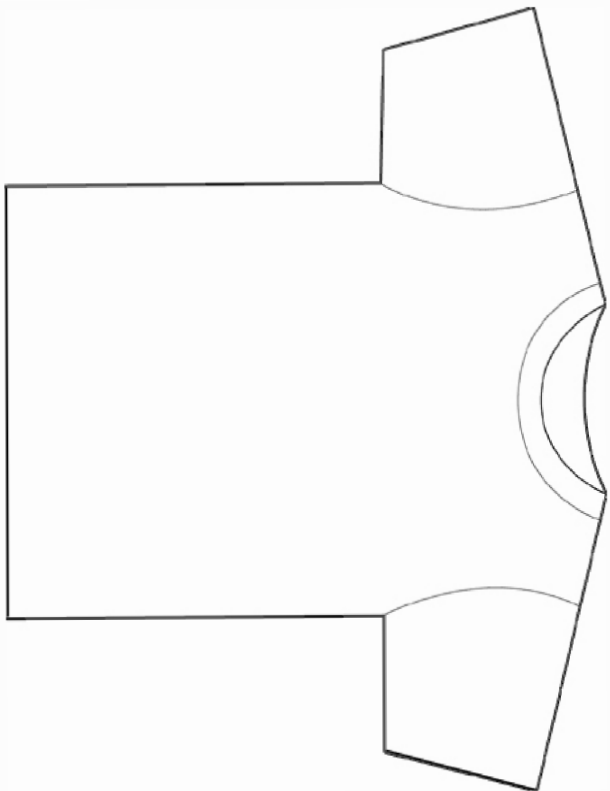
Continued from Page 9

17th just one year and one day after my first Momma delivered, five healthy kittens were born. They are now 8 weeks old and ready to go to the shelter. We have O'Reilly, O'Doul, O'Grady, Clover and Dora. And don't forget Ms. Honey Bear. Come take a look you will fall in love.

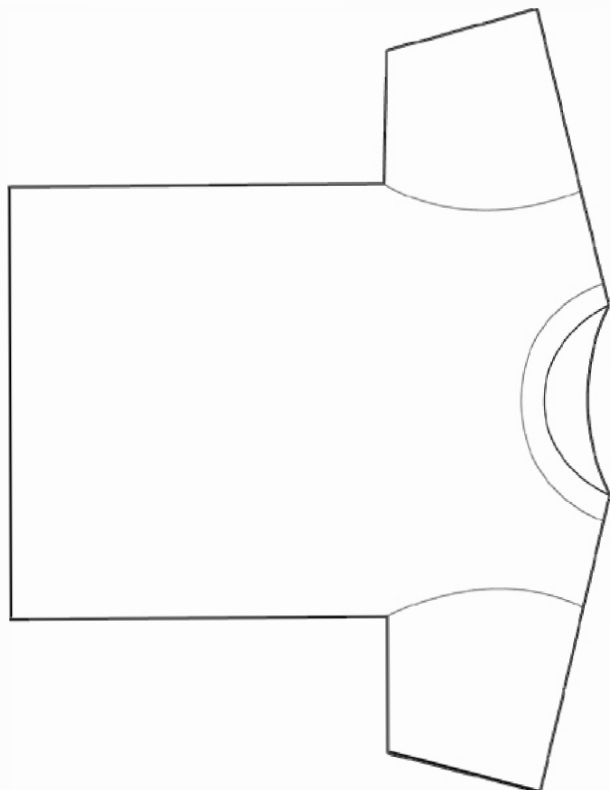
I love the foster experience. You may be a great fit for this volunteer position. You need to fill out an application. We will come take a look at your home, give you all the details, we provide the vet care and supplies.

You need to apply for a foster license from the state of Illinois which is a \$25 fee they run June to June so if you are interested the new "year" starts soon. You can purchase one anytime but to get the full use the closer to June is your best buy.

Fostering is not only pregnant cats. Dogs need fostering also. Some pets need socializing among other needs to train them in some way to be more adoptable pets. If you feel you'd like to try call Carol at 815-232-6164.



**FRONT OF SHIRT**



**BACK OF SHIRT**

Mail or Drop off your design at: Friends Forever Humane Society

966 W. Rudy Rd

Freeport, IL 61032

***PLEASE BE SURE TO COMPLETE BACK SIDE OF FORM***



# FFHS gets new, improved online presence

Editor's Note: Friends Forever Humane Society's new and improved Web site went live on May 10, 2011. The late Barbara Perry inspired her niece, Julie Rachlin, to create the new online presence for FFHS.

Hi, my name is Julie Rachlin and I donated this website in loving memory of my aunt, Barbara Perry (photo). Barbara lived in Freeport her entire adult life and was a lifelong lover of dogs. Before she passed in February 2011, she designated Friends Forever as one of two charities to receive gifts in her honor.

As an animal lover myself, I picked Friends Forever for my family's gift. I also Friends Forever Humane Society

wrote to FFHS and offered to design and develop a new website for them in honor of my aunt. They took me up on it and it has been a deeply rewarding experience for me.

My Uncle Bob, Barb's husband of over 60 years, is truly touched by this, as is our entire extended family. We are grateful to FFHS for the opportunity to make this donation in her memory. We hope this will help the shelter in its ongoing efforts to fulfill its mission.

Thank you to the wonderful staff, Board, and pets at Friends Forever. I'm sure my Aunt is smiling down on all of you with love!

<http://friendsforeverhs.org/>

966 W. Rudy Road | Freeport, IL 61032 | 815-232-6164 | OPEN DAILY NOON-4 | WED: NOON-7PM  
Contact Us | Partners | Admin Only

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Friends Forever Humane Society website. At the top left is the organization's logo, which features a green square with a white silhouette of a dog and a cat, with the text "FRIENDS FOREVER HUMANE SOCIETY" below it. A navigation menu includes links for Welcome, About Us, How to Help, Membership, Donate, Adopt, Pet Programs, Volunteer, Dog Park, News & Events, and Gallery. The main content area is titled "Welcome" and contains the following text: "At Friends Forever our Mission is..." followed by a bulleted list of mission goals: "to provide a temporary home for stray, unwanted, and abused companion animals", "to educate the public in the humane care and treatment of animals", "to promote spaying and neutering to reduce pet overpopulation", and "to promote animal welfare". Below this is a paragraph stating: "Friends Forever Humane Society is a non-profit organization focused on the welfare of companion animals. Our shelter does not receive funding from city, county or state taxes. Founded in 1953, and thanks to our generous donors and volunteers, Friends Forever Humane Society has helped over 10,000 animals in need." To the right of this text is a photo of a black and white dog. Below the photo is a quote: "Shelter dogs aren't broken. They've simply experienced more life than other dogs. If they were human, we would call them wise. They would be the ones with tales to tell and stories to write. The ones dealt a bad hand who responded with courage. Don't pity a shelter dog. Adopt one. And be proud to have their greatness by your side." - From the Pedigree "Heroes" commercial. Below the quote is a photo of a red brick building with a white van parked in front. The text below the photo says: "Please come visit us and take home your new forever friend today!" and "Saving one pet won't change the world, but surely, the world will change for that one pet. (author unknown)". At the bottom of the main content area is a photo of an elderly woman, Barbara Perry, with the text: "This Website was Donated In Loving Memory of Barbara Perry" and "Click here to learn more." On the right side of the page is a sidebar with several sections: "Stay in Touch!" with a Facebook link (1K likes) and a newsletter subscription link; "Donate & Support" with links for T-shirt contest, wish list, pet supplies, monetary donation, and pet programs; "Donate Online" with a "Donate" button and logos for Visa, MasterCard, American Express, and Discover; "Resources" with a link to a pet tips blog; "Upcoming Events" with a list of events including a board meeting, t-shirt contest, volunteer open house, micro chip clinic, and another t-shirt contest; "Recent Shelter News" with a list of news items like a canine camp rescue rally, a help support event, a rummage sale, and a dog park pond; and "Shelter News by Category" with a link for donations.

# Great help made rummage success

On April 30th and May 1st Friends Forever Humane Society held its annual spring rummage sale. Thanks to the generosity and support of the Freeport area community, this rummage sale raised \$5,333.00. The money raised from this fundraiser will be used to operate our animal shelter. On behalf of the FFHS Rummage Sale Committee, I would like to thank all those who helped to make this event a success.

We greatly appreciate the generosity of all who donated items for our sale. This giving spirit has made it possible for us to have one

Donors continued from Page 14

Tina E. Sims  
William & Mary Sisler  
Marilyn Smit  
Joan Snapp  
Audrey & Art Stees  
Melinda & Barrick Stees  
Beverly A. Tanis  
Jane & Scott Thompson

of the area's biggest and best rummage sales. Thanks to the shoppers who came and shopped. Every year the trip to Cedarville provides a new opportunity to find treasures. It is a lot of fun and at the same time the funds raised provide food, shelter and medical care for all the cats and dogs at the shelter.

Thanks to Cub Foods for donating the use of 10 shopping carts and providing the paper bags.

Last, but by no means least, there are no words to truly express our gratitude to all the dedicated Friends Forever volunteers who

Sally Toepfer  
Particia Toth  
Linda Truckenmiller-Krum  
Pat Van Heerem  
Don & Melanie Vanheirseele  
Mary Vehmeier  
Gerald & Gwen Vietmeyer  
Jennifer Wander

baked, worked at the sale, hauled rummage, helped to set up and clean up. FFHS is truly blessed to have such an amazing support team. Without their continued hard work there would be no rummage sale and indeed no Friends Forever Humane Society.

Friends Forever Society is not supported by tax dollars. We receive no city or county money. Donations, support and good will of the area's concerned citizens keep our shelter doors open. We truly need and appreciate their help. Jami Nielsen, Fundraising Committee

Aubrey E. Werntz  
Debra Wierzycki  
Kenneth & Dorothy Wilhite  
Alecia Winter  
Kemalie Winter  
Ronald & Sandy Wishard  
Jon & Pam Wolfe  
Kay Woods



Friends Forever Humane Society  
966 Rudy Road  
Freeport IL 61032