

THE

# COMPANION

HAPPILY EVER AFTER | WINTER 2019

**FOSTER IN 2020**

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**A MANDITORI THANK YOU**

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Since our founding in 2006, we have seen great progress in the companion animal welfare world. Needless killing in shelters continues to decline. Organizations across the country are moving towards a no-kill measure. The agreed upon no-kill measure has been defined as a 90% live release rate. Our view is that 90% isn't enough. We are determined to see the day when the remaining 10% receive continued care and love too. In our experiences, innovative solutions are produced when killing is removed from the equation.

### OUR VISION

A world where the life of every companion animal matters... Every.Single.One.

### OUR MISSION

To provide a loving home to every companion animal that enters our care. Lifetime guaranteed.

### OUR WORK

These five pillars guide our mission:

- > Adoption
- > Community Education
- > Spay/Neuter
- > Rehabilitation
- > Sanctuary (lifetime care)

### On the cover:

Immediate Connection - the moment that Mandi Sagal met Gus (fka Bach) at the Marion Sanctuary on November 8, 2014. Gus now lives in Nashville, Tennessee with Mandi.

## Giving Thanks

Dear Friends of HEA,

We're excited to share the content of 'The Companion' in a revised format! If you've been reading our newsletter for any length of time, you've likely noticed that the number of loose inserts was on the rise (and the font size wasn't getting any bigger). That's because the reach of the mission is growing fast! There's more story to tell to more people that believe in Sanctuary. In fact, HEA's mailing list now reaches 43 states across the nation. Wherever you're reading from, we're glad to be sharing these stories with you!

If Thanksgiving is defined as a day to express gratitude, then every day at HEA is Thanksgiving. This edition includes the words **thank you** in nearly every article. 'A Manditori Thank You' will offer you a trip down memory lane. You'll be able to relive the five-year journey we've taken in collaboration with Mandi, Tori and the bandmates of Yankee Darlings. While we're sad to be saying goodbye to our annual benefit concert with Mandi and Tori, we're grateful for how they've used their voices to help increase HEA's capacity to change lives. We think you'll agree; a whole lot has happened to make the lives of dogs and cats better in just five short years.

In regards to the words **thank you**, we wish we were savvy enough in our planning to tell you that's part of the theme of this edition. Nope, it just so happens that those words are critical to how the mission is carried out. HEA is able to exist solely because of the generosity and sacrifices that a community of people choose to make. As a reader and supporter, thank you for being one of our most loyal friends.

Said simply, we're grateful for each of you! Be sure to tell someone in your life (including your pets) how much you appreciate them this Thanksgiving. We're certain it will bring a smile to their face (or a treat to their lips in the case of your pets.)

On behalf of everyone at HEA, we hope you enjoy this new format and the many reasons we have to be grateful.

Happy Thanksgiving!

### The Reitz Family

P.S. If you've used the (loosely) enclosed envelope in past editions to contribute to our life-saving mission, you'll now find it stapled in between pages 8 and 9. Online gifts can also be made at [heanokill.org](http://heanokill.org). Thank you for doing your part to change more lives as we look ahead to an exciting 2020!



## Meet HEArtly Foster

Leading up to a brief outing with The Dough Shoppe and the Green Bay Booyah for National Cookie Dough Day at the ballpark, our friends at The Dough Shoppe surprised us with an actual HEA mascot costume. After our first couple outings, it was clear that this mascot needed a name - everyone asked the dog's name. We decided to put out a request for names from our followers on Facebook and Instagram. After a brief review, we narrowed the many creative ideas down to: 1) Foster 2) HEArtly and 3) Walter. We put these three names out for popular vote. As the results tallied, HEArtly carried 62% of the vote! Throughout the vote, many participating voters had paired HEArtly & Foster together as if to give this cute pup both a first and last name. We couldn't resist!

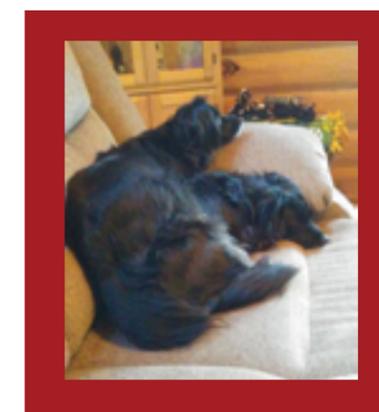
Thanks to that creative coupling of names, HEArtly now sports a collar with an ID tag and wears an HEA shirt with Foster 06 displayed on the back. The 06 is a reference to HEA's founding year. We'd like to send a huge thanks to The Dough Shoppe for inspiring HEArtly Foster!

## Champion Fund Makes a Mass-ive Difference

"Dumped at Baldwin & Robstown, finder witnessed." This is what her paperwork read. Winnie, an 8-year-old Black Lab mix came to HEA in early August from Corpus Christie, Texas. When Winnie received her vet check-up here in Green Bay, we learned of an enlarged mammary gland and received a recommendation to have a mass removed.

Mommies (and her daughter Girly) came to HEA in January of 2019 after they were surrendered to a Texas shelter because their owner had passed away. It was obvious upon their arrival, these two were bonded and would need to find a home together. This resulted in a surprisingly long stay. There was a moment in mid-summer where it looked like these two were on their way home together. Before their official send-off they made a visit to the vet's office. At the conclusion of that appointment it was recommended that Mommies should have a mass removed. We were prepared to conduct the procedure, but this report made the prospective adopter uncomfortable. We understood that decision, but it didn't change Mommies' outlook.

Upon learning of the cancer that was forming in Winnie and Mommies, our vet partners took action. Each had the cancerous mass that was growing inside of them removed. The decision was easy because the Champion Fund was at the ready. These ladies are a shining example of how the Champion Fund changes lives. Winnie was adopted shortly after her mass was removed. For Mommies and Girly, it took another two months, but they clearly hit the jackpot!



### Now at Home - A Mommies and Girly Update

*"To sum it up I think they're adjusting very well. They still have little things that spook them. When that happens they retreat to each other in their big open kennel. They are playing a lot more, both alone and together. This morning they ran around outside for a good half hour then came in and chased each other around the house for another half hour. Their little personalities are coming out. I was able to brush them, but they were sound asleep and that didn't last long. We'll keep working on that. Two poop accidents in the house with Mommies, but I don't scold. I picked it up and praised her when she went out. They tend to follow me everywhere. They're a little skittish with my mom yet.*

*The work your staff has done for these precious angles has not gone unnoticed, you kept them alive through your love and care. That gave me the ability to do the same until they take their last breath. They have given me another reason to be alive."*

### LET'S GET SOCIAL!



Like us on Facebook:  
[facebook.com/HEANOKILL](http://facebook.com/HEANOKILL)



Join our Facebook Group:  
[facebook.com/groups/Every.Single.One](http://facebook.com/groups/Every.Single.One)



Follow us on Instagram:  
[@heanokill](https://www.instagram.com/heanokill)  
[@adopthea](https://www.instagram.com/adopthea)



NICE

## ISO: 20 Foster Homes by 2020

**IT'S INCREDIBLY HARD TO BELIEVE, BUT THE NEW YEAR IS ALMOST UPON US. WHEN THE YEAR WRAPS UP, HEA WILL HAVE CONNECTED CLOSE TO 500 DOGS AND CATS WITH THEIR FOREVER FAMILIES IN 2019.**

These numbers are more than double what we were doing on an annual basis just three short years ago. Yet, there are so many more animals that need help. In other words, we've got more work to do. The daily pleas for our help from other rescues all over the United States is all the motivation we need to make sure we're focused on increasing our capacity to provide help.

Since our founding, many compassionate people have fostered more than 1,000 cats and dogs with HEA's guidance. We've made this happen with minimal program structure. Since our goal is to help more animals, putting the tools, practices, and people in place to deliver the impact is a necessity. We've used the second half of 2019 to do this, and now we need your help.

We're on a mission! We're in search of (ISO) at least 20 new foster homes by 2020. If you have room in your house and room in your heart, we'd love to explore the possibility of you joining our network of passionate foster families.



MICHELLE (RIGHT) WITH HER TRAINER FROM AUSTIN PETS ALIVE

### BUILDING OUR PROGRAM

Foster programs are a proven success for shelters and rescues across the nation. The program at Austin Pets Alive in Austin, Texas is nationally known and celebrated for its innovation and outcomes. To put things in perspective Austin is the largest no-kill city in the country. When Austin Pets Alive was founded in 1997, the kill rate in the city of

Austin was 87%. Today, Austin's save rate is 97%. Through an apprenticeship program funded by Maddie's Fund and hosted by Austin Pets Alive, HEA was able to attend a three-day intensive workshop in July. Our HEA process and projects guru, Michelle, boarded the plane, took to the classroom, and came back with endless knowledge and resources to take our foster program to new heights! Special thanks to the teams at Austin Pets Alive and Maddie's Fund for making this learning opportunity possible.

### FOSTERING AND WHY IT'S IMPORTANT

Fosters are a critically important piece to the companion animal welfare equation. Fosters provide a temporary home for pets that enter shelters or rescue populations. Placing an animal in foster, allows us to get to work on helping the next dog or cat in need.

While in your home, our four-legged friends will begin their search for a forever home. You'll play a key role in helping to assess your foster pet's personality, identifying what they'll need in their future, and ultimately helping to tell their story. Just think, you'll be the one showing them what life in a home is all about, showering them with endless love, and of course receiving companionship in return. This is most definitely a win-win situation.



SHANDY

### WHO ARE YOU HELPING?

We'll work closely with you to understand your capabilities and interests, but these are the types of dogs and cats that need foster homes.

- >> Puppies/kittens too young to be adopted - while they wait for their spay/neuter surgery
- >> Adult cats that just need a little time to come out of their shell
- >> Young dogs that will benefit from socialization
- >> Senior dogs and cats that will be more comfortable in a home environment
- >> Neglected or abused dogs and cats that need tender loving care
- >> Abandoned mothers with litters of puppies

### WORDS FROM OUR FOUNDER

"There are many great things that come with being a foster. I speak from personal experience, fostering will fill your heart and soul for years to come. Along your foster pet's journey to their forever home, they'll share many firsts with you. The first time they seek your touch, play with a toy, discover how to use the litterbox or get outside in a timely manner, greet you at the front door after you return home, and of course the first time they snuggle with you! When you elect to foster a pet, you become that special someone that they'll build comfort, security, routine, and trust with. All of these are the things they so crave, and you're the one with the special honor of showing them what life is all about." --Amanda Reitz, founder HEA



### When can I start?

We're ready for you! We're on a mission! We're looking for 20 new foster homes by 2020 and we have animals ready to enter foster care today.

### Join HEA's foster network

To begin the process, complete our foster application. This can be found at [heanokill.org](http://heanokill.org) or by emailing us at [foster@heanokill.org](mailto:foster@heanokill.org). Need a few questions answered, you can send them to the same email address.

### What's needed from the foster?

You basically provide a safe place for the animal to live. We'll take care of the supplies and all directed medical costs. We need your help with transportation to and from their vet appointments and adoption activities. We ask that you keep an eye on their health and wellbeing. You get to help with their socialization as they prepare for their future with a forever family! It's that easy. Our program is built to be flexible. These are temporary commitments that mean a tremendous amount to the dogs and cats in our program.

### What does the term "foster fail" mean?

You may see or hear these words a lot as it relates to fostering pets. Let us clarify, there is no such thing as failure when it comes to helping pets! Foster failure is simply when the fostering family falls madly in love with the pet in their home - so much so that they adopt the animal. That's definitely not a failure!



BAILI & 'FOSTER FAIL' DEXTER

### When it comes to letting go...

Those of us leading rescues hear it far too often, "I can't be a foster. I'll never be able to let them go when they get adopted." Here's our question, "If you can't, then who will?"

We understand, and we know that the moment of saying goodbye carries emotion, but is it really the letting go that causes the tears? Or is it the hidden pride and joy that you're carrying with you because you know that you've just opened the door to save yet another life? Every time an animal leaves your care, so will a piece of your heart. Remember how your heart felt when it was overflowing with joy while you were loving up on your foster. We promise you, the next foster will reward you in the exact same way! Imagine compounding that feeling!!



## A 'Manditori' Thank You

AMANDA, MANDI, TORI, & MARCUS  
2014 LIFE IS MANDITORI

FOR EACH OF THE PAST FIVE YEARS, MANDI AND TORI HAVE PERFORMED A BENEFIT CONCERT IN THE NAME OF THE ANIMALS AT HEA. WITH YOUR HELP, THESE TALENTED YOUNG LADIES HELPED TO GENERATE IMPORTANT FUEL THAT HAS RAISED THE BAR OF HEA'S MISSION. LIVES CHANGED BECAUSE THEY USED THEIR VOICES TO DO GOOD – AND THEY DID A LOT OF IT!

If you've followed this event closely over the years, you may recall that Mandi and Tori became Manditori by combining their first names. These extremely talented girls graduated from Bay Port High School in 2012 and moved to Nashville, Tennessee at age 18 to chase a dream. This journey saw their talents and interests evolve both as a musical duo and as two young twenty-something adults. When we met these young ladies there was an instant connection – their shared love of rescue pets. They have nine in total between the two of them.

They started as singers, but they dug deep and honed their songwriting skills too. If you purchased their *Light in the Dark* album, you likely found yourself singing along to "Park", "Dirt Don't Lie", and "Crazy" as if they were literally on repeat inside your head. In 2017, they changed their group name to Yankee Darlings to allow their producers to bring them into the inner-circles of the Nashville music scene. In 2019, they introduced Gutterball – a hot single that was accompanied by a catchy music video.

Each year when they returned to Green Bay, we cherished the time we shared with them as partners in animal welfare, as friends, and as members of our shared community. When they boarded the plane to return to Nashville, we knew there was always a chance that something could develop that might prevent them from returning for the next year.

Earlier this year, Mandi and Tori came together as lifelong friends and musicians to discuss their future in the industry. In short, they've decided to pursue different paths individually. They both plan to remain in Nashville. Mandi will be continuing to pursue her music career and Tori is expecting her first child (a little boy) next March. We're excited for both of them!

Our partnership started as a cute marketing slogan that appropriately reflected the views of HEA – Life is Manditori. This five-year effort produced more than \$90,000 of direct benefit to the dogs and cats at HEA.

### FROM BEGINNING TO END

In the first year of the Life is Manditori concert event, HEA co-founder, Ken Reitz made a statement in the video titled Sanctuary. To provide context, the quote was his reply when his daughter, Amanda, said she wanted to start HEA back in the early 2000s. Ken said, "I looked her straight in the eye and said, forget about it. It's never going to happen." Ken was reunited with that quote at last year's event as it was placed on the big screen behind the entire Reitz Family. Ken and Lois had been brought on stage to announce a \$5,000 challenge-match they were personally making for the audience that evening.



In order for HEA's mission to work, it requires incredible generosity. Ken and Lois' gift and the totals tallied over the five years of this event have been critically important to the life-saving work of HEA. When we learned of Mandi's and Tori's decision to pursue different life interests, we knew this meant they would not be returning for a 2019 show. We had to decide if we should hurry to plan a replacement event or keep our focus on the mission work and developing our 2020 strategies. Our team knows the value of a well-defined plan. Therefore, we decided to ask your help through this column.

### A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE

The memories included sing-alongs, tears of joy, heartfelt stories and videos, friendship, and most of all a vision to work towards – a world where the life of every companion animal matters...Every.Single.One.

Before we bring this event to an official close, let's reflect on the great experiences we've all shared.



As you review these memories, we're asking you to consider a special gift to help offset the absence of this year's concert event. As the year comes to a close, dollars become increasingly important to the lives we will serve in 2020 and beyond.

### 2014 Life is Manditori @ Meyer Theatre

HEA's video, titled Sanctuary, introduced HEA's scope of work and mission to an audience of more than 500 people.

**Also memorable**, on stage Mandi proclaimed her desire to adopt Bach (now Gus) – a large black cat that she met a few days prior at the Marion Sanctuary. Gus has lived in Nashville since December 2014. Believe it or not, Gus swims, has his own treadmill, and lives with two other dogs and two other cats.



### 2015 Life is Manditori @ Meyer Theatre

HEA's video, titled Momentous, highlighted the need for funding to open our new adoption center.

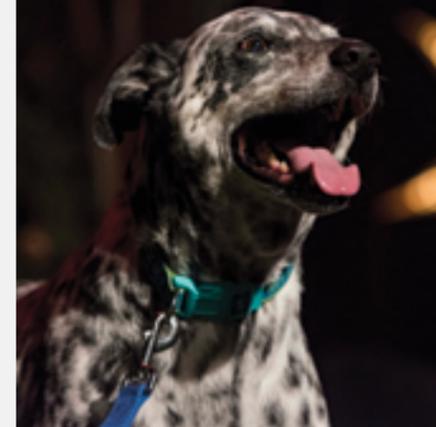
**Also memorable**, students from Lineville Elementary School (Mandi and Tori went to school there) joined Mandi and Tori on stage for three songs – Angels Among Us, Original, and Fight Song.

### 2016 10 Years of HEArt @ Meyer Theatre

An evening that commemorated HEA's 10th year of lifesaving, was perfectly captured in HEA's video, titled HEArt. The power of community was on display as the August 2016 opening of the state-of-the-art Green Bay adoption was celebrated. Earlier this year (2019) we already celebrated our 1,000th adoption since opening the Fox Heights Lane location.

**Also memorable:** Archie, a very special canine friend (of the Dalmatian/mix variety) took the stage in search of his forever family after being returned to HEA because his owner passed away of cancer. It took a few months after the show, but he found what he was looking for with someone that first saw him that night.

ARCHIE



### 2017 Merry Christmas Darlings @ the Ashwaubenon PAC

Beautiful voices brought a night of incredible Holiday music. We were able to celebrate a 37% increase in adoptions (compared to 2016). Additionally, HEA announced a collaboration with Northeast Wisconsin Technical College. This unique relationship was established to construct overnight guest cottages (that would be located

at the Sanctuary in Marion).

**Also memorable:** Following a special HEA edition of 'Twas the Night Before Christmas', Archie makes an onstage appearance with Santa Claus in memory of HEA supporter Chuck Chappelle.

### 2018 V @ the Ashwaubenon PAC

For the second year in a row, HEA celebrated huge adoption outcome growth – a 40% increase (compared to 2017). In addition to seeing Mandi and Tori at the height of their musical journey together, all of our guests got to meet the HEA Kids Pack of Parkview Middle School, our friends of more than 10 years from the Dane County Humane Society (Madison, Wisconsin), the entire Reitz family, and Jimmy (the dog) adopted in memory of HEA supporter – Jim Rivett.

**Also memorable:** Mandi, Tori, and their bandmates had the honor of staying as our first guests in the overnight cottages at the Sanctuary in Marion.

JIMMY





HEA ALUM, GUS (THE CAT)



MARCUS, AMANDA, CAMI, LOIS, & KEN  
2018 LIFE IS MANDITORI



### KEEP THE CAMERAS ROLLING

Our friends at Shaman Motion Pictures (SMP) are to thank for the great video stories we've been able to share at all five concert events. We find it most accurate to describe their team as extremely generous, beyond talented, and wildly compassionate thought leaders in the field of life.

We're happy to say that our relationship with this crew has grown quite deep over our five years of building HEA's story and enhancing the mission. And we're super excited to announce that there's a much bigger project in the works! Since July, we've been working with SMP and Conscious Content Collective on a documentary that captures stories from across the nation that will show the magnitude of the issue we're all trying to solve. HEA's unique approach to life-saving will be featured in this film. We're pretty proud of that.

We also had the opportunity to join SMP (on set) in Corpus Christi, Texas. We introduced the film crew to our shelter partners in the southern United States to show the scale of the challenges in another part of the country. In addition to joining HEA in Green Bay and Marion, Wisconsin, SMP also traveled to Colorado and California to capture more unique ways that animal welfare organizations are making a difference.

This full-length documentary is expected to release in 2020. We will be sure to keep you informed of its official premier date.



*In addition to the musicians and our concert attendees, there are numerous others that need to be recognized. Special thanks to emcee Cami Rapson of WBAY-TV2. Cami emceed this event for five straight years! Also, this series of events would not have been possible without our loyal sponsors, videographers, photographers, print partners, collaborators, venue partners, and volunteers. Thank you all from the bottom of our hearts - the life changing impact and capacity you've built for future lives to change is significant!*



HANK

## Two Special Forever Friends

**WHILE SAYING GOODBYE IS HARD, THE LIFE AND LOVE OF OUR SANCTUARY COMPANIONS IS DEFINITELY WORTH CELEBRATING.**

Your commitment to HEA's mission is what makes happily ever afters like Bandit's and Hank's possible. They knew the love of a family and made the Sanctuary their home. Even if you never personally met Bandit or Hank, thank you for loving them.

### A SANCTUARY LEGEND

In July, the HEA family had to say goodbye to Bandit. He had been with us longer than any other dog or cat in our history. His days in our care started in April 2007.

Bandit had been discarded by a family, hit by a car and left to die. Thankfully, a family rescued him and graciously got him some critically important veterinary care. The family that rescued him roadside, knew they wouldn't be able to provide the care he would need in the years ahead.

HEA was called upon to provide refuge for Bandit. We knew we could make a difference. At a very young age, Bandit had already had his fair share of medical issues. Due to his prior misfortunes, he strolled into HEA's care on three legs and was already battling incontinence. Along life's journey, no matter the hurdles, Bandit's resilient spirit always won. Bandit would be the first to tell you, he truly loved life.

Bandit was everybody's best friend. He enjoyed making friends with every dog he met. In the Sanctuary's early days, Bandit ran the joint. For several years, he was the Sanctuary greeter. You could count on his wagging tail to find you the minute you arrived. Bandit absolutely loved running through the fields on his three wheels. Most of all he was the best cuddler and a really good nose nuzzler.

### WORDS FOR BANDIT:

"B" you're missed by all of us, but we know you were welcomed by some of your Sanctuary favorites when you crossed the Rainbow Bridge. Not a day goes by that we aren't looking for your smiling face in the fields. Thank you for showing us what it means to be a fighter and a lover.

From the day we welcomed you into our family, we knew we would one day experience this incredible loss. We're beyond grateful for the moments you filled our hearts with love. You'll always be with us because your story will forever exemplify the true meaning of Sanctuary. Run free Baby B!

### HANKFUL FOR LIFE

Hank's journey is one to be appreciated. Hank came to HEA in 2009 from an animal control facility in Lafayette, Indiana. Our volunteers and staff fell in love with him instantly. His gentle manner, his low-key attitude with other dogs, and his love of chasing tennis balls in the field made him easy to love. Plus, he loved car rides, kisses, and resting his head on you. All of these attributes made him adorable to say the least.

Hank quickly became a favorite. We tried to show him off. At one point he even found life with a family. However, he made a couple of mistakes, which actually resulted in him being banned from a couple of different places and towns. It was evident the Sanctuary with its consistent routine and stability was what Hank would need to live his best life. Instead of trying to find him a family, we asked Hank if HEA could be his forever family. To that, he wholeheartedly agreed!

Hank was a part of HEA for 10 years, and he knew exactly what it meant to be family. He greeted visitors, jumped into visitors' cars to kiss their babies, he ran through the fields, he fetched tennis balls like a pro, he showed love, and most of all he provided comfort to all that needed it.

In August, our boy left us at 13 years old after a brief fight with cancer and heart failure. He was our shadow and our best friend right up until the end. We're all missing you Hankers! Love always, Your HEA Family.



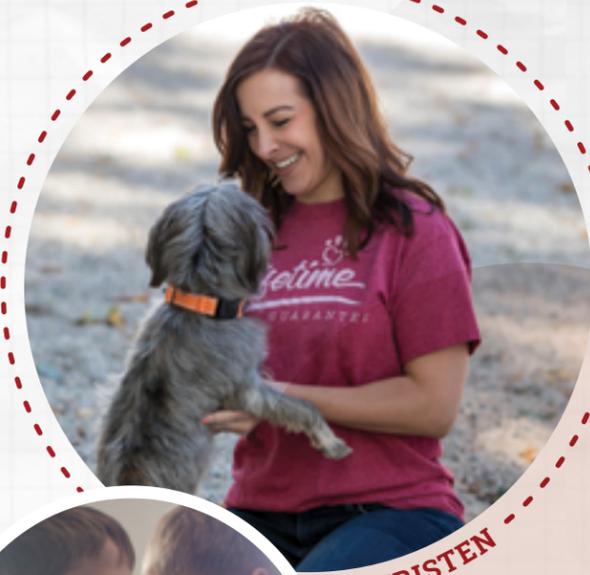
BANDIT



## Part of the Family Volunteer Spotlight

THE DEDICATED VOLUNTEER FAMILY AT HEA DOES IT ALL. THEIR ROLES INCLUDE: FOSTER FAMILY, DOG/CAT CARE SPECIALIST, DOG WALKER, SPECIAL EVENTS TEAM MEMBER, EXPERIENCE NAVIGATOR, SUPPLY COORDINATOR, GROOMER, PHOTOGRAPHER, AND THE LIST GOES ON.

You get the idea, these people are extremely important to companion animal welfare and are invaluable resources to cats and dogs in the communities we serve. To recognize the work of these selfless members of the HEA family, we've started a weekly feature on our Facebook page known as our Volunteer Spotlight. True to form, these are even written by a volunteer. We'd like to give a special nod to HEA volunteer, Kristen Tlachac, for her work in composing each and every volunteer spotlight you read.



--- KRISTEN



### MEET SUE

Sue has worked wonders her past 12+ years with us, working her dog-whispering magic on so many of our toughest cases. And while it may appear that she has a super-power with the tough ones, Sue says the dogs' transformation summarizes the basic components of animal care - kindness, love, patience, and consistency. With this special combination of commitment and perseverance, she can assist emotionally troubled dogs and pivot them into tail-wagging, smooch-giving, love monsters!

Sue's journey with HEA began after she saw an article in the newspaper shortly after HEA was founded. Since the first day Sue showed up at the Sanctuary to walk dogs, she's been a faithful and invaluable member of our HEA family. She says the hardest part about animal rescue is getting the public to understand that there is nothing wrong with rescued animals. With a little extra time and love, these beautiful creatures blossom into the kindred spirits our Sanctuary volunteers have come to know and love. Sue patiently and with great determination invests days, months, and years to the dogs that may not have been given a second chance at other shelters. She loves taking the "hard cases," because watching their transformation is her favorite aspect about volunteering.

Above all, Sue would like everyone to know that you can't give up on the dogs "nobody" wants. We want them. We love them. We become their family.



Interested in volunteering?  
Visit [heanokill.org](http://heanokill.org) to find out more.

### MEET DEBBIE & AVERY

Debbie and her daughter Avery have been volunteering for over four years with HEA!

These ladies volunteer because they love being part of an organization that gives selflessly to animals and the community. Plus, helping animals makes them happy! Their favorite part of volunteering is meeting all the different cats (and dogs sometimes too), but more importantly they've met and become friends with some of the most amazing people!

These ladies have a long list of favorite cats including Maggie, Callen, Mittens, Pixie, Sid, Clyde, Chardonay, and Rutger. They became favorites because of their fun, adoring, and sometimes challenging personalities. These kitties have all changed Debbie's and Avery's lives. When asking Avery what she does at HEA, she summed it up purrfectly: "I'm a generalized cat lover"! Debbie feels they spend invaluable time loving cats and building new relationships with fellow cat lovers. These ladies wrapped up their thoughts on volunteering by stating just how honored they are to be a part of the HEA family!



# Faulty Transmission

**IN MID-SEPTEMBER, THE MINIVAN THAT HEA HAS RELIED ON FOR THE PAST SEVERAL YEARS DECIDED TO FAIL.** The process to get it to the nearest repair shop was start it, drive 300 feet, coast, restart it, and repeat. Upon diagnosis, we learned it was going to take almost \$4,000 of transmission work to get it back on the road. Ol' reliable was a 2004 model year with 158,000 miles on it. Plus, it had recently experienced other repair work. We took this as a sign that it was time to commit to a vehicle that could reliably, efficiently, and safely rescue the animals that need us.

We searched hard for the right vehicle that would do the job and give us the reliability we need for the next several years. We were fortunate that our neighbors at Van's Honda had just the right vehicle on their used lot.

We were excited when we found a gently used 2016 Ford Transit XL with just 55,000 miles. This vehicle has already been a game changer for our animals, staff, and volunteers. It's designed to move cargo, and it increases our capacity to do so. It's fuel efficient. It'll be much easier to keep clean than an upholstered minivan. And finally, as a used vehicle it was reasonably priced.

Readers like you make it possible for us to invest in the tools necessary to carry out this life-saving mission. If you'd like to help offset the costs that we recently incurred in purchasing this vehicle, we'd greatly appreciate your help. Thank you for your support and your steadfast commitment to these valuable lives.



### What does this van do?

- >> It provides a vehicle with the physical capacity to save lives
- >> It assures safe & efficient access to healthcare and forever homes for the dogs & cats that we all love
- >> It offers our team a safe & reliable vehicle to do their jobs



# Happy Campers

**THIS SUMMER HEA OFFERED OUR FIRST EVER SUMMER DAY CAMPS FOR KIDS AGES 6-12 YEARS OLD.** We were able to provide community education to nearly 50 campers. All campers learned about responsible pet ownership, how to read the body language of dogs and cats, and why the mission of animal shelters is important. Campers of course got to meet and mingle with HEA's four-legged friends too. Thank you to our campers and camp counselors for making our first summer sessions a success.

*If you'd like more information about our winter camps, our 2020 camp schedule, or information on becoming a camp counselor, please contact Jess at [community@heanokill.org](mailto:community@heanokill.org)*

# Sealed With a Kiss

**THE LATE SUMMER AND EARLY FALL NEWLYWEDS SEEMINGLY HAD ONE THING ON THEIR MIND.** Kisses, kisses, and more kisses. Over a six-week window, HEA was the recipient of kissing jar proceeds from four different weddings. These four jars together exceeded \$1,500 of love for the dogs and cats at HEA!! We were even asked to bring some dogs to one of the weddings. Presto, Whitney, & Whitfield had a ball at the Austinson/Luna wedding. There was a literal shrill of excitement from the wedding guests when the ceremony concluded and it was announced that the dogs would be arriving in time for cocktail hour. Thank you and congrats to all of these kind-hearted newly weds!



# Grocery Shoppers Deliver Gigantic Gift

**WHAT HAPPENS WHEN FESTIVAL FOODS INVITES THEIR COMMUNITY-MINDED SHOPPERS TO INVEST IN A LOCAL NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION FOR A TWO-WEEK PERIOD? SIMPLY PUT, MAGIC HAPPENS!**



For 15 straight days, the team at Festival Foods asked their shoppers to support HEA's mission - and support they did! Shoppers from all five stores in the greater Green Bay area rallied together to share more than \$16,000 of support with the animals at HEA.

Huge thanks to Festival Foods and each of their shoppers that said "YES" when asked to support HEA with a \$1 or \$5 donation. Thousands of shoppers donated to make this possible. These dollars are allowing HEA to expand our reach and enrich our programming in the areas of adoption, community education, low-cost spay-neuter, rehabilitation, and sanctuary (lifetime care).

Literally thousands of people contributed to this impressive total! On behalf of the animals, THANK YOU to Every.Single.One. of you.

*I can shift Grocery Shoppers up and put some sort of dotted callout here if you have it. Otherwise it is what it is now.*



## Holiday Shopping at HEA

**NEW MERCHANDISE JUST ARRIVED!** If you've got one or more animal lovers on your holiday shopping list, we'd recommend a visit to HEA's adoption center. You'll find fashionable sweatshirts, t-shirts, tank tops, caps, beanies, sweat pants, dog treats, Seroogy's Meltaway bars, and a whole lot more. Shop early!



**Location:**  
HEA Adoption Center  
2255 Fox Heights Lane - Green Bay, WI

**Hours:**  
Monday-Friday 6pm-8pm  
Saturday & Sunday 11am-4pm

## 12 Months of Rural Rescue

**THE IDEA FOR RURAL RESCUES CAME FROM A GROUP OF HEA'S PET-LOVING VOLUNTEERS.** Their objective was to showcase the selfless work of the firefighters in the rural communities that surround the Sanctuary in Marion, Wisconsin.

A bunch of rapid-fire emails, texts, and phone calls led to a remarkable collaboration. Our talented team of volunteers made everything look easy. They coordinated two photoshoots with multiple fire departments, involved numerous willing HEA volunteer assistants, spent a few hours on content creation, compiled a design, and had the end product printed. We think you'll agree that the result is outstanding.

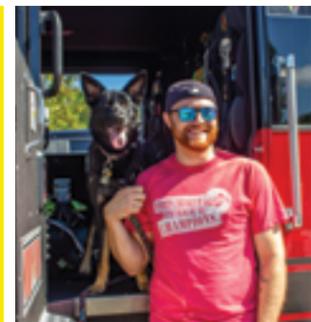
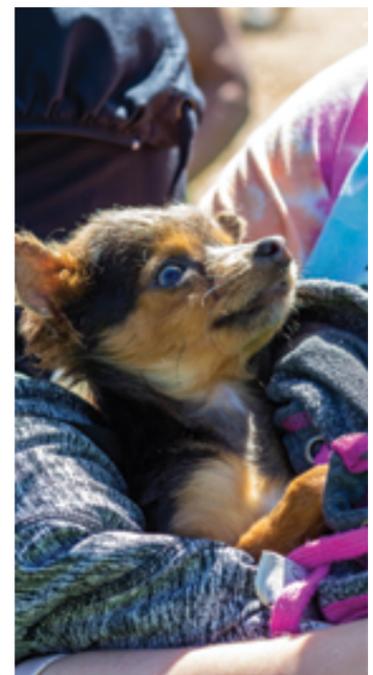
It was an absolute honor to feature adoptable companions from our sanctuary alongside these heroes. These men and women risk their lives every day to keep people and their pets safe. And we want them to know that they're appreciated beyond measure for their service!

A special "thank you" to the fire departments of Bonduel, Clintonville, Grant, Gresham, Marion, Shawano, and Tigerton for collaborating with HEA on this awesome project. An additional shout-out to the amazingly talented Riley Brianne Photography, the always generous Redfish, and to all of HEA's volunteers who made this happen!



**This limited edition calendar can be purchased for \$10 by visiting any of the following locations or we'll ship it if you order online at [heanokill.org](http://heanokill.org)**

- >> HEA Green Bay
- >> Gehm's Club 117 (Bonduel, WI)
- >> A&W (Clintonville, WI)
- >> Twig's Beverage Inc. (Shawano, WI)
- >> Bonduel Area Fire Department
- >> Sit & Stay Pet Resort (De Pere, WI)
- >> Golrusk Pet Care Center - GB East
- >> Golrusk Pet Care Center - GB West
- >> Stylin' at Mr. B's (Gresham, WI)



## Steps for Pets Sixties Style

**AN ALREADY BEAUTIFUL SEPTEMBER DAY AT MEADOWBROOK PARK IN HOWARD, WISCONSIN WAS MADE EVEN MORE BEAUTIFUL WHEN MORE THAN 500 WALKERS TOOK TO THE TRAILS AS A PART OF THIS YEAR'S STEPS FOR PETS WALK.**

This year's crowd set a new attendance record in Steps for Pets history! As promised the 60s spirit was felt in nearly every element of the day. Through the generosity of each walker, many friends of HEA, and exceptional sponsor partners, Steps for Pets generated more than \$25,000 of direct mission impact. These dollars are the fuel for HEA to provide care for nearly 700 dogs and cats each year.

- Here are the results:
- > 20 caring sponsors and in-kind supporters
  - > Nearly 60 event day volunteers
  - > 23 walk day teams
  - > 500+ registered walkers
  - > 1 Nutter Butter eating champion
  - > And more than \$25,000 of mission impact!

Thank you for your flexibility this year. We had to reroute the trail because of significantly flooded trail conditions. With Mother Nature's cooperation in 2020, we'll return to the scenic route you've come to enjoy.

**Stay tuned - we'll be announcing the date of Steps for Pets 2020 in a few short weeks!**

MARK YOUR  
  
 CALENDARS

- Here are a handful of the next places you'll be able to find HEA in the community:
- DECEMBER 3** - Giving Tuesday
  - DECEMBER 15** - Photos with Santa - Petco Green Bay East
  - DECEMBER 16** - Pizza Ranch Fundraiser - Ashwaubenon
  - DECEMBER 23 & 30** - Winter Kids Camp - HEA adoption center
  - MARCH 14** - Beer & Biscuits
  - MARCH 8-10** - WBAY Pet Expo
  - MAY 30** - The Big Event
  - STAY TUNED FOR DATES ON HEA SUMMER CAMPS AND STEPS FOR PETS 2020!**



**Happily Ever After Animal Sanctuary**  
E5714 Bork Road  
Marion, WI 54950

If you are moving, receiving duplicate copies of this publication, or wish to be removed from our mailing list, please contact us by email at [donate@heanokill.org](mailto:donate@heanokill.org).

## Your Support Changes Lives.

HEA relies solely on the generosity of individuals like you to help a growing number of animals every day. We receive no funding from the federal, state, or local government to perform our mission.

### **DONATE**

Your gifts provide shelter, medical care, and the love that our four-legged friends deserve.

[heanokill.org/donate](https://heanokill.org/donate)

### **MATCH YOUR GIFT**

Many employers match their employees' charitable gifts. Your impact doubles (some even triple) when your employer matches your generosity.

### **SHARE A MEMORY OR TRIBUTE**

Honor that special someone or a four-legged friend with a memorial or tribute gift.

### **LEAVE A LEGACY**

Including HEA in your will, estate plan, or as a beneficiary is easier than you'd think.  
**Email [donate@heanokill.org](mailto:donate@heanokill.org) for more information**

### **GRANT A WISH**

HEA has a list of wishes! It's important that we receive the specific items on this list. These items are what will provide the biggest benefit to the animals. Our list changes periodically. With more than 700 animals to care for each year, supplies are very important.

### **HOURS & LOCATIONS**

#### **Green Bay Adoption Center**

2255 Fox Heights Lane  
Green Bay, WI 54304  
Mon-Fri: 6pm - 8pm  
Sat-Sun: 11am - 4pm

#### **Marion Sanctuary**

E5714 Bork Road  
Marion, WI 54590  
Visit by appointment  
Sleepover ([staywithhea.org](http://staywithhea.org))



## Get Involved!

### **VOLUNTEER**

Looking to make a difference in the lives of companion animals? We have opportunities for groups, individuals, and families. There are many ways you can change lives!

[heanokill.org/volunteer](https://heanokill.org/volunteer)

### **FOSTER**

A remote volunteer opportunity! From the comfort of your own home, you'll provide the care necessary to prepare an animal for adoption.

### **SPEND THE NIGHT**

The guest cottages at HEA give our animals the chance to experience something truly life changing - a sleepover with YOU!

[staywithhea.org](https://staywithhea.org)