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A publication of Sanilac County Humane Society

The Latest News for You and Your Pets

Giving Stray Cats a New Trade

In mid August a pilot program for trapping,



neutering and relocating stray cats took place in Bad Axe, Michigan. This small city, located in the tip of the thumb, had

been experiencing an unmanageable stray cat problem for quite some time, with no relief in sight until we were able to secure a plan to help. Working closely with the citizens of Huron County and the residents of Bad Axe, our shelter teamed up with Michigan State University and developed a plan to spay or neuter approximately one hundred stray cats and relocate them to farms, businesses and homes in need of "working" cats.

On Wednesday August 15, volunteers and staff of SCHS began live trapping stray/ feral cats. Generous cooperation from the city allowed the cats to be safely housed at

the fairgrounds for the few days prior to surgeries. Once surgeries were completed, each cat was given a rabies vaccine and a small portion of their left ear was tipped (removed). This procedure provides a visual clue that the cat has been sterilized and will no longer be producing any unintended litters of kittens.

On Monday August 20, the participating ninety-one "new hires" were delivered to their places of employment along with a large amount of donated canned food and instructions for the employer on helping them set down roots in their new home.

We are happy to report that this first endeavor was a huge success and we are very grateful to the City of Bad Axe for support of this program and their generosity in housing the veterinary students of MSU, running ads explaining the program and keeping the residents informed.

With your continued support SCHS would like this program to be the first of many that will help other areas in the thumb of Michigan having similar issues with stray cats.

Will Power... No truer act of kindness for those we leave behind

This is Lucy. In early June, she was hand carried to our shelter by our local Animal Control officer. There was little need for discussion or reviews. Her human daddy was so devoted and grateful to her for eighteen years of loyalty and friendship, he couldn't ask her to end her life as well. You see, she had been the one and only love of his life, and when he realized he could no longer spend his days with her, he made sure that she would be cared for until she was ready to join him in the next life.



Daddy promised everything would be ok. He provided a lengthy note telling

all there was to know about her. He explained that she was to be taken to our shelter and he included two sets of detailed instructions on how to get her there - a country route and a city route.

Ron and Matt, two long time supporters and previous adopters responded immediately with their desire to adopt her and promised her a home for however long she needed it. Lucy is blending in well and the guys post her progress to our Facebook page - check it out!





- Meet Your Best Friend at the Zoo Friday and Saturday September 14 & 15
- **PetSmart Adoption Event** Fort Gratiot Store September 15 & 16 - noon to 4:00
- **Memorial Car Show** A & W - Lexington September 22
- Cheesecake Sale month of October. Orders taken at Shelter or Putt' in 4 Paws Delivery before Thanksgiving
- Halloween Spooktacular Saturday October 27 at Putt' in 4 Paws 4:00pm till 8:00pm
- **Pictures with Santa** at Putt' in 4 Paws December 8 - noon till 4:00pm

SCHS will receive the "Brite Ideas" Award at the Great Lakes Animal Welfare Conference this October for fearlessly taking in and finding homes for 21 senior dogs and 15 senior cats so





far this year!

Just send your email address by text message: Text SCHSNEWS to 22828 to get started.

Scan this QR code with your smartphone or iPad to go directly to our website for

info on events and all

adoptable animals!

YOUR SUPPORT MAKES THESE HAPPY ENDINGS POSSIBLE!

Stinky Pete had been on the road awhile with a buddy when they landed themselves at Animal Control. His pal was quickly returned to his owner but Pete wasn't

so lucky. Surely he once had an owner but they weren't to be found.

Next stop: **SCHS** where a full tummy, tons of pampering and a make-over made his sweet little personality really shine through.

He spotted the **Anklam** kids as they toured the shelter and Pete decided they wouldn't be allowed to leave the shelter without him!



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Sherman and **Panzer** (yep, named for the WWII tanks) were dumped in a parking lot in a neighboring county. These handsome Terriers were adopted pretty quickly into separate homes, but Sherman was considered not quite cuddly enough and returned to us.

Enter - the Van Hoorelbeke's.

When they heard about Sherman they came to see if he

might be a good match for their Corgi girl Phoebe who for some time had been mourning the loss of her doggy brother.

On the first visit, Sherman promptly sniffed out the treats in mom's purse and then fell comfortably asleep on dad's feet. The next test would be meeting Phoebe.



It only took about two minutes for her to become smitten with Sherman. They're getting along great and Phoebe already knows to give Sherman some space if he feeling a little crabby. **Harriet** came to the shelter mid March of this year as an unclaimed stray. She was very thin but full of personality. While in her kennel, she would sit toward the back, not at all the needy looking type, so she was overlooked for a long time. Apparently she was planning to *choose* her family herself.

Early in July the **Krug** family visited the shelter in hopes of finding a pet for the new home they would soon move into. As they walked by her kennel, Harriet perked up and gave them the sign that said "I choose you!" After

spending time with her, they felt the same way, but they would have to leave without her because she wouldn't be allowed at their current home.

Soon we advertised Harriet as "dog of the week". Panic ensued - would someone else be as drawn to her as they were and take her home first? They were just three days away from moving into their new place so they made an urgent plea to the current landlord for Harriet to come



home to them for just those last few days before moving. He said yes and now the picture is complete!

Little Duke had spent his whole life with one family that included another dog. As life goes, his canine sister passed away, and soon after that his human mom too. Because Dad's job kept him away from home most of

the day he felt that Duke would be happier and thrive in another more active home.

At fifteen years old, could this little guy find a new life and a gal pal like the one he lost? A clean shave and a girlfriend added years to his life!



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