



LAKE HUMANE SOCIETY

CONNECTIONS

Pets. People. Community.





LAKE HUMANE SOCIETY

Our Mission

is to protect animals and build connections between pets and people through advocacy and education.

Our Vision

Leading and guiding a humane Lake County.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Rich Harmon, **Board President**
Laura Pizmoht and Dawn Plante,
Vice Presidents

Beth Donaldson, **Treasurer**
Susan Fasso, **Secretary**

Members at Large

Linda Cappelli
Kevin Freese
Ka-Pi Hoh
Jennifer McCarty

SPRING 2021

A Happy Tail on the Cover: Kami

Photo Credit: Rachel Ritz, Volunteer Photographer

"I knew the day of that second meet and greet with you, the day I brought you home to foster you, I knew. I knew this was your forever home.

You have missed out on so much love that it breaks my heart! I see the real YOU. I see happiness. I see courage. And I see strength.

You no longer need to fear."

Kami's Forever Family

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Meet the Staff

Lee Nesler, Executive Director

Lee Nesler, Executive Director, has been a member of the Lake Humane Society team for six years. Within that time, she has seen the organization grow and accomplish so much for the pets and community, making it a more humane county. "It is a fulfilling place to work because our talented team of staff members, who care so deeply for the animals, work side by side to help the pets we serve." said Lee.

Lee holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Illinois in Animal Science with a specialization in animal behavior. This educational path set her up for her current position by learning about animal physiology, anatomy, and behavioral needs. Animal welfare is a large part of her life as Lee has been actively leading shelters for 13 years. "I feel it is a souls' mission, it is something that speaks to you and your compassion. We are the people who get to help animals that have been forgotten, neglected or abused recover and find a new home. For the community, we are there to help when times are hard to make sure pets get the care they need when a family can no longer care for them." said Lee.

Lee believes Lake Humane Society has great potential but is currently hindered by the size and layout of the shelter that that organization has resided in for 30 years. As LHS looks to the future, the goal is to grow the accommodations and build a shelter for the animals which is designed specifically

for the purpose of being a pet resource and adoption center. "We will evaluate the needs of pet families in our community by expanding programs as needed. All while we continue to provide excellent care and enrichment for the animals awaiting their furever homes."

What we learned in 2020, a pandemic year, is that the staff of LHS and our dedicated volunteers followed the requirements set forth by the Governor and the CDC to always be here for the pets. Our scale may have grown smaller, but we were here to meet the animals with emergency needs and to help homeless animals find homes.

"We are an essential function in the community, and we are proud to be among the people working daily through this pandemic." said Lee.

Lee has 4 dogs (3 that are shelter alums), a kitty and a horse. In her free time, Lee continues to surround herself with animals. She enjoys training her dogs, riding her horse, and spending time in nature. She also likes photography, especially of the natural world. It is a passion of hers that she hopes to do more of as the days grow longer. Additionally, Lee enjoys adventure and traveling is a wonderful outlet for her. She seeks out experiences that will create memories and enrich her life.

Keeping Pets in Homes

Auggie's Pet Food Pantry



Lake Humane Society never wants anyone to feel they need to surrender their pet because they cannot afford to feed them. In October 2020, we opened Auggie's Pet Food Pantry to all Lake County residents who need help feeding their pets, regardless of income. In just 5 months, we have had 195 visits to our pantry and have served 2,528 lbs. of food to Lake County pets. The need continues to grow so we are now open and helping pets 3 days each month.

Auggie's Pet Food Pantry is open the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month from 1:00 PM-3:00 PM and the 1st Saturday of each month from 9:00 AM-11:00 AM. It is located in the Annex of Lake Humane Society at 7564 Tyler Blvd. in Mentor, OH. A current ID, mortgage/rent statement or utility bill will need to be presented at the time of service.

The pet food pantry is named after Auggie, a very special boxer mix who came to Lake Humane Society through a humane investigation in 2017.

Auggie was emaciated, dehydrated, anemic and close to death when he was found. He is also a fighter. In just 7 days in the care of LHS, he gained 7 lbs.! Auggie is now healthy, happy and living his best life with his forever family. The pet food pantry is named in honor of Auggie because of his resilience when faced with adversity.

YOUR THEIR LEGACY HOPE

Christ Kotsos's Story of Legacy and Hope

Christ loved animals. After retiring from car sales, he became involved with Lake Humane Society. Christ became a regular event attendee, and always looked forward to Black Cat Ball. In the years that followed, he adopted two dogs from LHS, Willams and Grady, who brought such joy to his life.



Before Christ passed, he knew he wanted to leave something meaningful behind. After talking to staff at LHS, he included Lake Humane Society in his will. Christ wished to help homeless animals long into the future – a legacy we are honored to fulfill.

We would love the opportunity to talk to you further and help you create a legacy of compassion. Please reach out to Mandy Osborne, Director of Development, at 440-951-6122 ext. 103 or mosborne@lakehumane.org. Or scan this QR code to learn more!



Make a difference year-round!

The Circle of Compassion is LHS's monthly giving program - just \$1 a day can make big difference in the lives of injured, abused, and abandoned pets. Members enjoy exclusive quarterly updates on the impact of their monthly giving. To join, visit our website lakehumane.org.

Protecting Animals

Humane Investigations

Lake Humane Society provides protection to the animals of Lake County through our Humane Investigations department. Cassandra Hatch, Lake Humane Society Agent, who is appointed by the Lake County Probate Court, works together with local law enforcement to fight animal cruelty and neglect across all of Lake County. In the state of Ohio, a Humane Agent is empowered to enforce state laws regarding animal cruelty.

Like all programs and services offered by Lake Humane Society, our Humane Investigations department runs solely on donations as we receive no outside funding for this department. This means that all expenses related to this department, from equipment to special prosecutor fees to staff wages, are dependent on donations. "The best part of my job is working with the animals. It is a great day when an animal is rescued from a bad situation and given the opportunity to enjoy the life they deserve. It is satisfying to see the pets recover and be adopted into a loving forever home where they will be properly cared for." said Cassandra Hatch.

If you suspect animal cruelty or neglect, please call 440-951-6122 X105 or email agent@lakehumane.org. Reports may remain anonymous but you must leave a message detailing the situation you are concerned about and a full address. Every single report is investigated.

Tank was rescued from a humane investigation. He now lives in a safe and happy home with his furever family.

Board Spotlight

Rich Harmon, Board President

Rich Harmon, Board President, has been a volunteer with Lake Humane Society for nearly 10 years. While Rich is now enjoying retirement, he is the former Fire Chief of the Willoughby Hills Fire Department.

"I am passionate about improving the quality of life of the citizens of Lake County. By connecting pets and people, Lake Humane Society improves the lives of pets and its residents through adoptions and community programs. I am excited about what the future holds for Lake Humane Society and the community it serves." said Rich.

Rich lives in Willoughby with his two rescue dogs, and Lake Humane Society alum, Thomas and Lizzy. In his free time, he enjoys spending time with friends, singing and playing his guitar.



Saving Lives

Foster Program

Although Lake Humane Society takes in thousands of animals each year, there are never enough warm cages and loving hands to care for all the animals in need. In addition to the stray animals and animals that are surrendered by their owner, very often we take in animals that require a little extra space, time, attention, and love.

Whether it's a litter of young kittens too small to be vaccinated or a dog in need of recovery time after an extensive surgery, Lake Humane Society couldn't provide them the much-needed care in a home without the help of our foster families. **To learn more about fostering, please email foster@lakehumane.org**



Volunteers at Lake Humane Society are vital to the care and placement of the unwanted, injured, abandoned, and abused animals of Lake County. Without our volunteers, we would not be able to continue to care for, defend, protect, and find loving homes for the animals in need. To learn more about volunteering please email volunteer@lakehumane.org.



Helping Provide a *Comfortable Home*

Cage Sponsorships

Cage Sponsors help provide lifesaving care and the comforts of home to each animal that passes through their sponsored cage. Dog, cat, and small animal sponsorships are available. Each donor is honored with a special plaque on their sponsored cage and personalized quarterly updates. To learn more, reach out to Mandy Osborne, Director of Development, at 440-951-6122 ext 103 or mosborne@lakehumane.org.

2020 by the Numbers



19,585 Foster Hours
1,018 Animals



**325 Humane
Investigations**
254 Impounds,
10 Court Cases



260 Volunteers
9,396 Hours



Medical
3,278 vaccines
752 surgeries

Addressing Community Concerns

Trap , Neuter, Return (TNR)



TNR is the humane approach to addressing community cat populations. TNR improves the lives of cats, reduces complaints about cats, and stops the breeding cycle. We are proud to offer this service at a reduced cost to all Lake County residents.

TNR appointments are currently being scheduled for Tuesdays. All cats must arrive at the clinic between 7:30 AM-8:00 AM on the day of their scheduled appointment. All cats must be community or feral and arrive in a humane trap. LHS will provide a trap if one is not owned.

The cost for TNR is \$25 for Lake Co. residents and includes the following:

- Spay or neuter surgery
- Ear-tipping
- Rabies vaccination
- FVRCP vaccination

Additional services upon request include: FELV/FIV Snap test, Topical flea treatment, Tapeworm injection

Please email scheduling@lakehumane.org or call 440-951-6122 X116 and include number of cats, approximate age and the best phone number to reach you if you are interested in scheduling TNR services.

Angel Fund Recipients

Recovery Updates

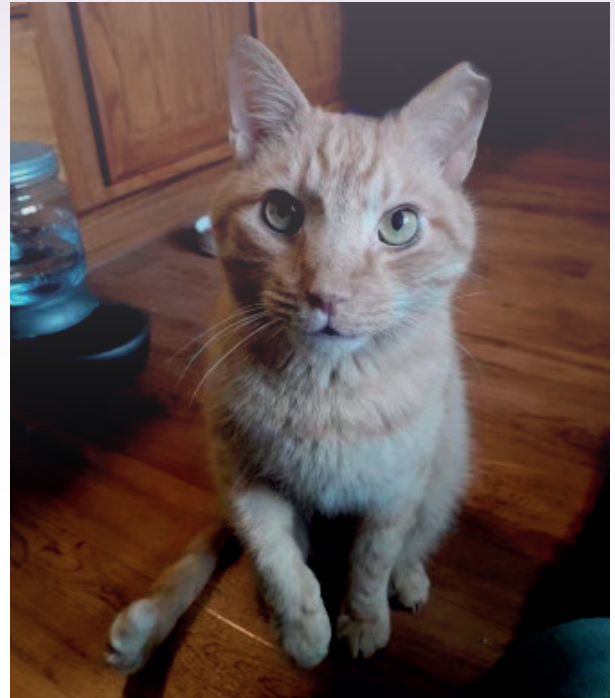
The Angel Fund originated in the Spring of 2007 when a stray German Shepherd, later named Angel, was found in need of immediate medical attention. Angel suffered from severe injuries after being hit by a car. There was too much damage to her leg for it to be saved and it was amputated with a laser surgery procedure. If it wasn't for the community donating money towards her surgery, she may not have had the opportunity to enjoy the life she deserves. The Angel Fund was created to ensure that all adoptable pets receive the care they need, regardless of expense.

In 2021, we have already had many animals arrive with emergency or extensive medical needs. Generous donations to the Angel Fund helped provide these adoptable pets with a second chance at life. **Paulie, Layla, Johnny and June are four of these deserving companions.**



Layla

After being rescued by LHS's humane agent, it was determined that **Layla** was heartworm positive. Heartworm treatment and recovery is expensive. Thankfully, Layla's Angel Fund donors have covered her cost of care. Layla just received her second injection and is recovering in a foster to adopt home.



Paulie

Paulie spent months battling a rare bacterial infection. Thanks to his Angel Fund donors, this sweet kitty received injectable antibiotics and extensive medical care. Lab work completed by LHS veterinarian, Dr. Wolfgang, confirmed that the infection has resolved. Now, Paulie is enjoying life in his forever home!



Johnny & June

Johnny and June were discovered in the freezing cold, emaciated and dehydrated. LHS operates out of a refurbished warehouse and does not have the capability to care for horses on-site. Their kind Angel Fund donors helped provide these sweet horses with a temporary home, extensive medical care and more. Johnny and June are on the road to recovery!





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lakehumane.org
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WILLOUGHBY, OH
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Our Vision Leading and guiding a humane Lake County.



Sit. Stay. Drink.

For a great cause!

PUP CRAWL JUNE 5

Downtown Willoughby

Enjoy a day filled with fun, dogs,
raffles and so much more while
hopping from bar to bar in Down-
town Willoughby!

Admission includes a t-shirt,
pup cup, drink special
and food specials.

Go to **lakehumane.org**
OR Scan the QR code to
get your Pup Crawl

Tickets NOW!



THANK YOU SPONSORS



THE NEWS-HERALD
www.News-Herald.com



**Mark Your
Calendars!**

Rescue Rock Off - July 24
Mentor Amphitheater

Mutt Strut - August 22
Lake Metroparks Farmpark

Black Cat Ball - October 29
The Barn at Tall Oaks

Our Mission is to protect animals and build connections between pets and people through advocacy and education.

Follow Us!



Lake Humane Society



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