# **ARK in Action**



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The Newsletter of Animal Rescue Kare (ARK), serving Hart County

Winter, 2019

# 2018—The Year in Review



The 2018 Dawgy Dash was a tremendous success, thanks to the efforts of Larissa Trousdale and her awesome team.

Together, we can achieve so much! That sums up ARK's efforts in 2018. Our wonderful volunteers worked on fund-raising, public events, communication, and ARK projects throughout the year.

Our biggest fundraiser was the Dawgy Dash 5K, with proceeds from sponsors and entry fees topping \$40,000. Many volunteers helped make it possible. A huge thanks goes out to that team and to our generous sponsors!



There were 5 Spay-Neuter -Rabies Voucher events at various locations in Hart County. These events provided 394 low-cost vouchers to help reduce the number of unwanted pets. Our pet foster pro-

gram got off to a great start this year, with 62 successful adoptions.

Other community events included July's Carnival and Membership Picnic, a yard sale, the Pasta for Paws spaghetti lunch, Barktoberfest in the fall—complete with Haunted Escape Room, and participation in the area's Christmas parades.

ARK has received several grants to help us with our various projects. These projects require even more volunteers. Join the ARKies—become a volunteer! Find out more at our website.

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#### Animal Rescue Kare— ARK

#### Mark your calendar

- HORSE CAVE SPAY-NEUTER-RABIES VOUCHER EVENT, MARCH 9, 11:00 TO 1:00
- ARK MEMBERS ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION, MARCH 26, 6:00 PM, HART COUNTY LIBRARY
- Dawgy Dash 5K, June 1
- GET UPDATES AND DETAILS ON OUR WEBSITE.

# **ARK Wins Chamber Award**

ARK members were surprised and very honored to receive the 2018 President's Award from the Hart County Chamber of Commerce.

This is a tribute to the dedication and hard work of our volunteers and supporters, who are passion-

ate about improving animal welfare in Hart County.

The need is great, our goals are big, and with the continued support of the community, we will press on to reach as many animals in need as possible.



Receiving the award from Kenneth Kidd -Chamber President were Dave Foster, Bonnie Moore, Laura Clement, Ron Gonterman, June King, Melinda Houk, Israel Bergenson, Loretta Cottrell and Dr Lynn Salisbury (not pictured.)

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Kayla, a dedicated foster mom, with Rickashae—who recently found a loving new owner

# Youth Ambassadors—Looking Forward

A new ARK project is underway. The Foster Committee plans to team up with young people— Youth Ambassadors—to help increase the number of animals we can save. ARK received a \$5,000 grant from Maddie's Fund (#ThankstoMaddie) to implement this project.

The project has 3 parts:

1. Promote adoption, es-

pecially for cats. Young creative people who are savvy with social media can help us spread the word about adoption.

- 2. Help with fostering. We need more foster families for the number of needy surrendered and stray animals. Young animal lovers can foster animals or help in existing foster homes.
- 3. Train big dogs. Some

of our big dogs are not well -mannered. They jump up on people, don't respond to basic commands, etc.
ARK plans to offer training classes to help socialize the big, lovable dogs, so they are more attractive to potential owners.

The team is eager to get started. This program will help ARK expand its reach into the community, with a positive impact for our animal friends and our youth.

# Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR), Project for Stray Cats

Stray cats can be a real nuisance, so ARK is taking steps to humanely reduce their numbers.

Starting in early March, ARK volunteers will trap stray cats and transport them to a vet's office, where they will be fixed and receive rabies shots. After a brief recovery period, the cats will be returned to their outdoor homes. (If taken to shelters, the cats would almost certain-

ly be euthanized.)

The cat colonies will gradually grow smaller, since they will no longer have kittens. The cats will be healthier and there will be less howling and fighting. Good news for their neighbors!

This new initiative is paid for with a grant from the Two Mauds Foundation. ARK is working with local authorities and vets to make this program a success.

If you know of any stray cat colonies, please contact us. Call and leave a message or fill out a form on our website. If you would like to help trap cats, just let us know!



Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR), the humane approach to addressing community cat populations, works. It saves cats' lives and is effective.

Alley Cat Allies



#ThanksToMaddie

# **CASOKY—ARK Partnership**

Only \$25 to get your dog or cat spayed/neutered—what a deal! Our low-cost spayneuter vouchers have made a huge impact in the community. However, \$25 can be out-of-reach for some of our neighbors.

With that in mind, ARK got a \$5,000 grant from Maddie's Fund to offer no-cost vouchers to clients of Community Action of Southern Kentucky (CASOKY). #ThankstoMaddie.

We had our first distribution on January 29. It was gratifying to have so many thankful clients, who wanted to do what's best for their pets, but just couldn't afford it.

ARK is very grateful to the CASOKY staff for helping

us plan and conduct this event, and to Riverside Animal Clinic, Hartland Animal Hospital, and Barren River Animal Welfare Association. Together, we are making a difference, reducing the number of unwanted animals in Hart County.

## **Featured Fosters**

ARK's Pet Foster program got underway in 2018. It has been a great year, with our two coordinators, Laura Clement (cats) and Bonnie Moore (dogs), working with foster families, the local vets, and 62 happy new pet owners to keep animals out of shelters and placed in loving homes. Here are two of our success stories.

## Ninja



Ninja showed up at a Munfordville cat owner's home but couldn't stay there permanently. The citizen, though emotionally attached to Ninja, surrendered him to ARK. In a perfect twist, a young lady who is a veterinary technician visited ARK's 4th of July booth in Bonnieville and asked if we had a good clinic cat candidate and—voila! Ninja lives at Hurstbourne Animal Hospital in Louisville and charms people and their pets during appointments.

While most cats keep a lower profile, Ninja's role as a mascot fits his personality to a tee.



#### **Pressley**



Pressley was too high strung for the family that gave her to ARK. When her adorable picture was posted for adoption, she received many inquiries. (Love those Yoda ears-) Julie was the perfect fit!

Julie focuses this little lady's energies on toys and play, and takes her almost everywhere she goes. These two were made for each other.



**Julie and Pressley** 

Marie Brown recommends ARK

They love animals - what else can I say?

# **Spay-Neuter-Rabies Voucher Project**



ARK's Spay-Neuter committee was very active in 2018, distributing 394 low-cost vouchers to help de-

crease the number of unwanted pets in our area.

Voucher purchasers are very grateful for this service. Pet owner Carol Friedman states, "With my \$25 check to ARK, I received a certified rabies shot and a complete female cat spaying for no further cost to me. The folks with ARK put their

money where their thoughts are. This is almost like magic!"

Last year, voucher distributions took place in Munfordville, Hardyville, Cub Run, Bonnieville, and Horse Cave. Events for this year will soon be announced. Stay tuned!



Distributing low-cost vouchers to reduce the number of unwanted animals.

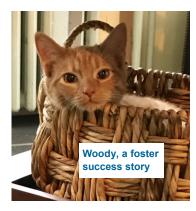


Animal Rescue Kare PO Box 427 Munfordville, KY 42765 Phone: (225) 414 - 2765, leave a message

We're on the Web! Website: www.ark4hart.org Facebook: ARK for Hart

#### **Board of Directors**

Israel Bergenson—Acting
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Ron Gonterman— Acting
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Loretta Cottrell—Board
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Ally Hensley
Melinda Houk
June King
Dr. Lynn Salisbury
Adam Thompson
Dr. Kevin Vance
Missy Williams—Foster Chair



ARK is a non-profit, federal-tax exempt animal welfare organization . Your donations and membership dollars go directly toward helping Hart County's animals.

Animal Rescue Kare (ARK) is an all-volunteer animal welfare organization working to improve the quality of life for animals in our area. Hart County lacks a shelter for lost, unwanted, abused or neglected animals. It is our goal to provide necessary care, to promote adoptions, to encourage responsible pet care, and to eventually build a shelter, when donations allow us to operate a quality facility. (Until then, BGWC in Bowling Green provides top-notch service for our unwanted animals. This allows us to focus on reducing those numbers through our spay/neuter and fostering programs.)

Join ARK as a member or renew your membership for 2019. Members will receive membership cards good for discounts at several area establishments. You will also receive first-hand information about our projects and events. Individual memberships are as low as \$25, with family memberships available for \$45. Help ARK continue its vital work with your membership or donation.

Consider putting your talents to work by becoming an ARK volunteer! We need your help for our biggest fundraiser of the year—the annual Dawgy Dash 5K, coming up on the first Saturday in June. See our website for more details about volunteering.

# **ARK's Board of Directors**

The ARK board is made up of dedicated volunteers who meet each month to provide oversight, plan ARK's future direction, and conduct any business that could affect ARK's operations. The board is empowered to outline long-term goals, implement a fundraising plan to support those goals, and ensure that we meet legal and business requirements.

Each board member is elected to serve a 3-year term. Each year, one third of the board seats are open for elections. New or returning board members can be elected to fill those positions.

This year, we have accepted the resignations of several outstanding board members. ARK sincerely thanks them for their service and wishes them well: Terry Shelton, David Clement, LaRissa Trousdale, and Debi Griffiths.

The ARK Board has recently approved a threeyear business plan, striving to have the greatest impact on improving animal welfare. It includes support for ARK's highly successful spay-neuter-rabies and foster / adoption programs, and it also provides for long-term needs such as a future building or shelter.

The board is looking forward to a bright future for ARK.



... TO ALL OF OUR DONORS, SPONSORS, MEMBERS, AND VOLUNTEERS. YOU'RE THE BEST!