



ARK in Action

The Newsletter of Animal Rescue Kare, Fall, 2021

Hot Diggity – Dawgy Dash a Success!



Despite the uncertainty that the pandemic has caused, ARK was pleased to have approximately 100 people sign up to participate in the Dawgy Dash, either in-person or virtually. When August 28th finally arrived, excited runners, walkers and dogs gathered at Munfordville School for the event. It seemed as if everyone was so happy to finally be outside safely enjoying a group event. Even the dogs were wiggling with anticipation!

A mix of serious runners and leisurely walkers took part in the Dash. The fastest runner and overall male winner was Terry Young of Greensburg who clocked in at 21:54. Lindsey Burd of Horse Cave was the overall female winner with a time of 33:18. The duo of Ed Thompson and his dog, Donald, finished the course in 33:52 to become the overall dog/owner winners.



Serious runners vied for the fastest times.



Some folks enjoyed a brisk walk with dogs, family, and friends.

It was a very hot day, but the human participants cooled off with sno-cones and water while the canine participants enjoyed a pup cup from Cave City Creamery. The dogs also frolicked in the Petsense doggie fountain to cool down.

ARK wants to thank all the sponsors, donors, volunteers, and participants who helped to make this event a success. Approximately \$25,000 was raised to benefit our 4-legged friends in the county.

Susan Rowe, ARK Fundraising & Development Chair

Our sincere thanks to the 2021 Dawgy Dash 5K sponsors:

Platinum Paw – Span Tech, Oscarware Inc., Col. & Mrs. David Clement, Ron & Joyce Gonterman, Opal Gonterman, Alex Rosser-Allstate Insurance, WNKY News 40

Golden Paw – Melody Chaney-Edward Jones Investing, Mike & Laura Burd, German American Bank, Phyllis Wilcoxson-American Freedom Realty, Ed Thompson

Silver Paw – Hart County Hardwoods, LLC, J.D. & Nev Craddock, Hart County Builders Supply, The Cecilian Bank, Family Medical Center, Vicky Reynolds, Will Sacca-Sacca Insurance, Kari's Kountry Kritters, John & Jennifer Freeman, Tri County Auto & Oil, Hartland Animal Hospital, Sego Funeral Home, Country Charm Pet Spa & Resort, Visionfirst, Limestone Bank, Riverside Animal Clinic, Alvey's Towing & Recovery, Roe Farms, Bobby Kessinger-Coldwell Banker Legacy Group, Munfordville Tourism

Bronze Paw – Dr. Joseph Hall, DMD, Karl M. Forster, DDS, Ann & Doug Ostapack, Mary Ann McCoy, Bill's Auto Service, The Pence Family, Hart County Power Tools, Cub Run Engine & Solar, Nolin River Hardware, Kayla Rountree-Hart County Circuit Court Clerk, Stephen Barber-Green River CPAs, Dennison's Roadside Market, Fleet Feet Nashville, Gary & Carolyn Dennison, Dana & Patti Markwell, American Cave Conservation Association, Joe Myers-Kentucky Farm Bureau, Drew Thompson-Gilbert & Gilbert, Scott Kerley-Kerley Construction Company, Munfordville Chapter OES

Save the Date

*Oct. 9, Pet Adoption Fair,
Petsense in Glasgow,
9:00 AM – 4:00 PM*

*Nov. 20, Hardyville Spay-
Neuter-Rabies Voucher
event, 10:00 AM – 12:00.*

TNR Making an Impact – 700 Fixed Strays and Counting!

The owner of the Munfordville McDonald's, Tom Burrell, encourages employees to give back to their community. This year the McDonald's crew chose Animal Rescue Kare (ARK) to receive a \$300 grant along with an offer for volunteer help. ARK's Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) team arranged the volunteer effort at the home of Peggy Pennington.

When ARK's TNR team receives a report of a stray cat colony, they make plans to trap, house, and transport the cats to be altered. Cats are either spayed or neutered and get a rabies shot. The left ear of each cat is "tipped" while they are under anesthesia so it can later be identified as a cat who has been altered.

On the evening of August 2nd, David & Laura Clement, of ARK's TNR team, met with the crew from the Munfordville McDonald's, including Manager Brittany Poynter, her husband John Poynter, Eleah Trousdale, and Kaleb Lafever at the Pennington home to help trap cats.

"My team loved having the opportunity to help with this program," said Poynter. "Laura is so knowledgeable and really cares about the community. (We are) so blessed to have a boss who lets us give back to Hart County."

The team successfully captured ten cats who were then transported to BRAWA early the following morning, and the Pennington family transported one tame cat to Hartland Animal Hospital. This brought the grand total to 700 felines fixed since the launch of the TNR program in the spring of 2019. The McDonald's grant will be used to cover the medical expenses for these cats.



The latest numbers from the TNR Team – 742 community cats fixed – Wow!

The cats are kept indoors overnight after the surgery to ensure their safety, and then returned to their outdoor home the following day. Keeping the cats confined overnight after surgery allows them to wake up from anesthesia, eat a full dinner and breakfast, and be observed for any potential complications.

"Feral cats aren't candidates to be adopted for pets and would most likely be euthanized if taken to an animal shelter," said Laura Clement. "TNR is the humane option for these animals. Since felines reproduce in staggering numbers, it's up to pet owners to spay and neuter their cats to prevent overpopulation. It takes just one queen and free-roaming Tom cat to launch an entire colony of strays. We owe it to them!"

Please report strays at our website ark4hart.org. If you have cats, get yours fixed. Purchase \$25 BRAWA spay-neuter vouchers on ARK's website or at the Hart County Sheriff's office. You can help ARK solve the overpopulation of cats and improve the health of our community cats.

Excerpts from an article for the Hart County News Herald, by Katrina England

The New Hart County Shelter Building is Complete!

It has been a long time coming, but the new Hart County Shelter Building at the fairgrounds is now completed. ARK has played a major role in supporting this new building project with its donation of \$27,000 in fixtures / equipment, as well as volunteer labor for the installation. Our continued gratitude goes to Paul Bunting for the time he donated to install the ARK equipment. Great job Paul!

Hart County Judge Executive Joe Choate has the responsibility to oversee the startup of this much anticipated shelter. Recently, a Hart County Shelter Advisory Board, reporting to Judge Choate, was appointed by the Hart County Fiscal Court and is staffed by: John Quincy Adams, John Bunnell, Israel Bergenson (the ARK rep on this board), Diana Thompson, and Ashley Walters. This board serves to advise Judge Choate on all matters relating to the shelter. Recruiting a new animal control officer is underway with several applications under review.

ARK is eager to work closely with this new board to assist them and Judge Choate. For any questions relating to the opening date of the new shelter or its operation, please contact Judge Choate's office directly at 270-524-5219. *Ron Gonterman, ARK Shelter Committee*

Featured Fosters

ARK's Foster team consists of some very compassionate and caring volunteers. Bonnie Moore is the Foster Coordinator who takes all calls, dispenses advice, finds suitable temporary homes for pets, makes sure they are healthy, screens potential adopters, and matches them to their perfect pets. It isn't always easy. In fact, it can be a heartbreaking task, but these volunteers have an abundance of heart. Here's a report on one of the recent challenges.



Marley and Charley, now bright-eyed and bushy-tailed

On the evening of August 23, we received 6 boxer/poodle puppies that were very sick. They had been kept in a muddy cage where disease spread easily. We were able to get them to the vet in the morning but unfortunately 1 died at the vet and 1 died on the table. The other 4 were treated for severe worm infestation. One more died two days later, but the other 3 got better and were sent back to our foster home.

On September 2, another one started acting ill and was taken back to the vet with his 2 brothers as a precaution. Turns out they also had giardia from stagnant water and more hookworms. We lost one more, but the other two - Charley and Marley - are doing great.

This was hard for the foster family as well as the puppies. It's not always a bed of roses when we rescue these creatures, but we definitely try our best. Thank you Riverside and Hartland for your help with these guys. A special thanks goes to our foster Carrie Thomas and her family for their love and care for these guys. One more note, they are meeting their potential new families this week. *Bonnie Moore, ARK Foster Coordinator*

ARK Needs You to Volunteer!

Our Foster/Adoption and Trap-Neuter-Return programs are run by some very dedicated and caring folks. They work tirelessly to improve the quality of life for animals in our community. But they need help. If you can spare a little time, once a week or even once a month, they could use you. Here's what we need:

Foster/Adoption

- Foster homes needed for dogs and/or cats - provide temporary care and socializing as needed before the animals are adopted.
- Help at adoption events by bringing your foster animals and if possible, staying to tell the potential new owners about the pets.
- Transportation to help foster families get the pets to the vet's office as needed.



Trap-Neuter-Return

- Volunteers who can assist in trapping cats. We will train and provide all equipment. Volunteers would transfer cats to our "Kit Inn" in Munfordville. You will not have to handle the feral cats. They will be in secure traps. Some lifting is required since traps with cats weigh 20 - 30 pounds.
- Transporters to get the cats to/from the vets' offices - a large SUV or truck and tarp to line your vehicle. (Transport to BRAWA in Glasgow or Hart County vets). We cover the traps with towels to keep the cats calm. Some cats are tame and in pet taxis.
- Someone who is handy with a sewing machine to make covers for the cat cages from old sheets and blankets.

If you would like to help us out, go to the ARK website (ark4hart.org) and fill out the Volunteer Application or the Foster Home Application. You can complete the applications online or print out paper copies and mail them. We will contact you as soon as we receive your info.

We could also use supplies - canned tuna in oil, tarps, old towels, newspapers, and shallow cardboard boxes to serve as disposable litter boxes. If you have any items to donate, email us at ark4hart@gmail.com or message us on Facebook at ARK for Hart. Thanks!

Introducing New ARK Committee Chairs

We are delighted to announce some new faces for important positions at Animal Rescue Kare. Katrina England has been acting as our Volunteer Coordinator and SNR record keeper. She has graciously volunteered to take on the vital role of Communications Director. This job will keep her busy, making sure ARK communications are professional, helpful, and focused on our furry friends. Jessica Hogan (wizard of spreadsheets) will take over some of the record-keeping duties.

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

ARK's Board of Directors

David Clement –Board Chair, Foster Committee Chair, TNR Committee Chair
Israel Bergenson – Vice Chair
Wes England – Board Secretary
Janet Kistler – Board Treasurer
Susan Rowe –Fundraising & Development Chair
Ron Gonterman – ARK Grant Writer, Shelter Committee Chair
June King – Spay-Neuter-Rabies Voucher Committee Chair

Lara Beth Hodges is our new Membership Coordinator. She will be working closely with the board to maintain records, recruit new members, create materials for our membership, and develop ideas for involving the ARK community. We are looking forward to working with Katrina, Jessica, and Lara to help serve Hart County's needy pets. We appreciate ALL our wonderful volunteers – old and new!

thank you!



Great Offer from Bobby Kessinger!

Looking to buy or sell property? If you use Bobby Kessinger, Coldwell Banker, as your realtor, just mention that you are a "Friend of ARK" and Bobby will donate 5% of his net commission to ARK. This offer is good until March 15, 2022. We really appreciate his generosity and continued support. Thank-you, Bobby and all of our membership partners! You're the best!



Dogs beat the heat in the splash fountain at this year's Dawgy Dash 5K.

Animal Rescue Kare (ARK) is an all-volunteer animal welfare organization working to improve the quality of life for animals in our area. We strive to provide necessary care, to promote adoptions, and to encourage responsible pet ownership. ARK is working with local officials to establish a shelter in Hart County. We are committed to helping animals through our spay/neuter, fostering, Trap-Neuter-Return, and educational programs.

Please consider putting your talents to work by becoming an ARK volunteer! See our website for more details about volunteering.

Join ARK - Donate Today

Donations over \$25 include ARK membership. Fill out this form and send it to the address on this page, along with a check.

Or join/donate online: www.ark4hart.org

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City/Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Volunteer? (circle) Yes No

Level of Giving Youth (under 18) \$10 ____

Adult \$25 ____ Family \$45 ____ \$100 ____

\$250 ____ \$500 ____ \$1,000 ____

Lifetime individual \$1,500 ____

ARK is a tax-exempt charitable organization. Your donations to ARK are tax-deductible and greatly appreciated.