



ARK in Action

The Newsletter of Animal Rescue Kare, Summer '23



ARK's Cat Team Saves the Day

When ARK's Foster Coordinator Alethea Dudley, heard about some 3-week old kitties found under a house that was being demolished, she raced into action. They found the kittens and searched in vain for the mom. They couldn't find her, so the 4 siblings needed to be bottle fed. That's quite a chore - feeding 4 hungry babies around the clock. It takes a lot of dedication, not to mention lost sleep. It paid off; the kittens thrived with their loving care.

Oreo, Pudding, and Chip are now 10 weeks old and ready for adoption. Little Debbie has already found her forever home. The kitties are very sweet, friendly, and love to snuggle. Because they were hand-raised, it would be best for them to have an indoor life. Like all of our foster cats, they are up-to-date on vaccines and dewormed – in other words – healthy. Their \$35 adoption fee includes spay/neuter/rabies vaccine and microchip after 6 months (if done in Hart County). If you know anyone who needs a good healthy cat or kitten, have them fill out the application at ark4hart.org and our adoption coordinator will contact you.



Oreo and Chip – two of ARK's adorable, adoptable kitties

If you have room in your heart and your home to foster some cats or kittens, we would love to discuss this with you. We are getting a LOT of calls about dropped-off and unwanted litters and we must turn many of them away, since we just don't have room in our foster program. We really need more pet foster homes. Fill out the application on our website: ark4hart.org/petfoster or give us a call (225) 414 – 2765 and [leave a message](#).

ARK is offering \$20 vouchers for cats to be spay-neutered at BRAWA in Glasgow. Help us prevent cat overpopulation by getting your kitties fixed! These vouchers can be purchased at the sheriff's office in Munfordville or online at ark4hart.org/shop.

Animal Rescue Kare's 2023 Dawgy Dash: A Pawsome Success!



Avie Collins and her pooch give it their all at the Dash.

We are thrilled to share the incredible success of Animal Rescue Kare's 2023 Dawgy Dash, which took place on April 22. The event brought together animal lovers and their furry companions for a morning of fundraising and exercise.

Thanks to the overwhelming support of our dedicated volunteers, generous sponsors, and enthusiastic participants, the event raised approximately \$20,000 that will support ARK's programs to ensure that our furry friends receive the care they deserve. We really appreciate your support for our main fundraiser of the year.

ARK Ambassadors - Summer Outreach 2023

In their first summer of existence, the ARK Student Ambassadors are making a difference. Throughout the summer, the Ambassadors will be socializing, loving, and training dogs at the HCAS KY357 auxiliary kennels. Steve Thompson, ARK Educational Coordinator and Dog Trainer Carolyn Bruce of Steady Paws, are leading the group in this mission.



Madison Dennis, Chloe Hardin, Tony Roberts, Olivia Teague, and Carolyn Bruce of Steady Paws

All seven play areas are active at this facility. The dogs are now able to run and play, which has had positive effects on their overall well-being. The KY 357 dogs are more at ease and less traumatized by their varying experiences. They are all very adoptable dogs. A special thanks to Tony Roberts, HCAS Director and Carolyn Bruce of Steady Paws, for assisting the ARK Ambassadors on this mission.

Steve Thompson, ARK Youth Ambassador Director



Olivia Teague with new friend

ARK Needs Your Help!

Do you need a good, worthwhile project? ARK can provide you with a fulfilling challenge! We need several key volunteers with some of our programs. Some require more time than others, so you should be able to find a job that suits your availability, interests, and talents.



One job that doesn't take much time is Volunteer Coordinator. This person can work at home, filling in a spreadsheet with volunteer information, contacting new volunteers to discuss their interests, and sharing their information with committee chairs. It's a really important job, but only takes a couple of hours every month or so.

A more involved job is TNR Coordinator. This would be an ideal job for a couple who really wants to make a difference. It involves working with homeowners who have contacted ARK about stray cat colonies – making arrangements to humanely trap those kitties, transport them for spay-neuter, and bring them back to their outdoor homes. You would work with volunteers who help trap and transport. You can set up your own schedule – doing as much or as little as you like. You could establish a TNR “season” or trap once a month. It's up to you!

For someone who doesn't really want such a “hands-on” job, you might consider the job of Membership Coordinator. This job requires keeping a spreadsheet up-to-date with membership information, sending out reminders and our quarterly newsletter, and taking the lead in planning membership activities. You will work with a team to share the job responsibilities, so it won't be so much work for one person.

If any of these jobs interest you, go to ARK4hart.org/volunteer and fill out the form. We hope to hear from you soon! Working together, we can make a difference.

Hart County Animal Shelter (HCAS) Continues to Help More Dogs

HCAS has been in operation for more than a year and continues to service stray and owned dogs in Hart County at a breakneck pace! ARK continues to assist the HCAS in several important ways as new challenges arise. The staff at HCAS is successfully managing the very high number of intakes each month, mostly from strays picked up by Animal Control as they respond to reports and requests.

From the time it opened its doors in March of 2022 to the end of May 2023, HCAS has taken in 426 dogs from both animal control pickups and owner surrenders. Finding homes for each adoptable dog is always the top priority. The shelter has demonstrated very promising results with 45% of all dogs received in the past 14 months having found new adoptive parents. Another 33% have been transported out of Hart County to other states where adoptable dogs are in great demand.



With this high volume of dogs coming and going, heavy demands are being placed on the staff and facilities. ARK always tries to find ways to help and has recently purchased a new commercial washer / dryer for the shelter. The lifespan can be short on such equipment due to the heavy volume of daily cycles that are necessary to keep the facility clean, sanitary, and disease-free. Also, ARK has purchased four new portable cages to be used for overflow dogs when the other kennels are full. These portable units allow thorough cleaning and are replacing older units that were stationary and difficult to sanitize.

And, as always, ARK continues to seek out ways to assist the shelter staff with volunteer recruiting, financial assistance, and educational opportunities from ARK's extensive network of professionals. *Ron Gonterman, HCAS Liaison*

Celebrating the 4th with Pets

Everyone loves the 4th of July, with its celebrations, picnics, and get-togethers. However, fireworks and other loud noisemakers can be very stressful for your pets. Here are some steps you can take to help your furry friends when the festivities get loud and bright -



Know how your pet reacts to fireworks and consult your vet beforehand about measures you can take to help them relax. Consider calming supplements or medication.

Pets frequently run off when frightened by fireworks. To get them back home quickly, make sure your pets have dog tags with their names and your contact info. Make sure their tags are fastened securely. If they are microchipped, check that the registration info is up-to-date. Just in case - have some recent photos of your pets to help with a potential search.

Continued

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

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

ARK's Board of Directors

- David Clement –Board Chair,
- Israel Bergenson – Board Vice Chair
- Janet Kistler – Board Treasurer, Communications
- Ron Gonterman – ARK Grant Writer, Shelter Liaison
- Susan Rowe –Fundraising & Development Chair
- Alicia McClure – Spay-Neuter-Rabies Chair
- Bonnie Moore – in-training Secretary/BOD member.

Don't bring pets to fireworks displays. Instead, provide a calm and quiet space at home. Keep your pets inside if there is a lot of celebrating outside, in a spot where they feel comfortable. Close curtains and create white noise with a fan, TV, or radio. It's important that you remain calm, as well, since your pet can pick up on your moods. Take a nice long walk before fireworks start, so your pets are more inclined to rest. Have a wonderful (quiet, safe, and peaceful) 4th of July with your furry friends!

ARK's FAQs

We get a lot of questions on our Facebook page. Here are answers to some of our FAQs.

- **When will you have your next SNR voucher sale?** *Answer:* We always post our SNR voucher sales on our website and Facebook page. We usually post the info about a month beforehand. We also send emails to members who have supplied email addresses.
- **Do you have any vouchers available for dogs or cats?** *Answer:* We always have BRAWA cat vouchers available – now on sale for \$20. They can be purchased at the sheriff's office in Munfordville or our website shop. We currently have a few dog vouchers available for \$35, for use at the Animal Clinic of Glasgow. Pick a specific date in July from the menu on our website shop.
- **Where are you located?** *Answer:* ARK doesn't have a physical location. We operate as volunteers from our homes. The Hart County Animal Shelter is not managed by ARK. It is run by the county. ARK is a big supporter, but that is not our facility.
- **There's a stray dog in my neighborhood. What should I do?** *Answer:* Call the Hart County Judge Executive's office at 270-524-5219 for Animal Control. They pick up strays and take them to the shelter where they do their best to find the owner. If a homeowner doesn't mind keeping the pet for a while, we can post a photo along with some basic info on Facebook to reach the owner.
- **How can I rehome a pet?** *Answer:* For dogs, call the shelter to see if they have room. If they don't, they will put you on a waiting list. ARK can post dogs or cats on Facebook to help find new homes. Your cats may be able to enter our foster program if we are not over capacity. Message us on Facebook or email with photos and basic info: ark4hart@gmail.com

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 support the Hart County Animal Shelter. We are committed to helping animals through our spay/neuter, foster, trap-neuter-return, outreach, 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 ARK, PO Box 427, Munfordville, KY 42765

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 to the full extent of the law and greatly appreciated.