Madison County Animal Care & Control



RESCUER RECOGNIZED

ANIMAL CARE & CONTROL MANAGER RECIEVES HONOR

Madison County's Animal Care and Control manager was honored for her work in increasing the save rates of cats and dogs at the county's facility.

Partners for Pets of Troy presented Katherine Conder with its Newcomer of the Year award during its 3rd annual Valen'tails Gala on Feb. 9. She was given the award for her efforts in reducing the number of animals that are euthanized at county's shelter and finding rescues to take them in for adoption.

Chairman Kurt Prenzler praised Conder's work. He said her efforts during the past year have helped the county move toward its no-kill goal with a more than 90 percent save rate.

"She's doing great work," Prenzler said.

Prenzler recognized Conder at the County Board meeting Wednesday night and informed board members about the statistics at the county facility. He said that the county's euthanasia rates in 2016, when he first took office, were 67 percent for dogs and 39 percent for cats; in 2017, 80 percent for dogs and 61 percent for cats; 2018, 92 percent for dogs and 93 percent for cats.

"We would not be where we are now without all Katherine's hard work," he said.

Conder said that she appreciates the recognition.

"This is really exciting for Animal Control since the county doesn't have an adoption center," she said. "I never expected it. I don't do this for recognition, but for the animals."

Partner for Pets Director Erika Pratte is thankful for all the work Conder and Prenzler is doing in the county.

"Katherine is changing lives at Madison County Animal Care and Control," Pratte said.

She said with her help and the rescue organizations work animals are finding loving homes. Partners for Pets

"Every piece of this is a team effort," Pratte said.

Prenzler agreed. He said assistance from the rescues makes saving the animals possible.

"The goal when I took office was for the county to reach a 90 percent save rate for animals being euthanized," he said. "We reached it with help from the rescue groups and our goal is to keep saving them."



Fostering Felines

Cats are in need of a temporary home hope to find shelter with a few local families.

Madison County Animal Care and Control is in need of volunteer foster families to help care for cat and kittens — as well as felines awaiting a more permanent spot.

Katherine Conder, manager and animal control, said volunteer foster families are needed as we approach the upcoming "kitten" season. She said foster families help reduce the number of cats/kittens at the animal control facility.

"Fostering also helps eliminate upper respiratory illness in cats when they are in the building," Conder said.

Foster parents are required to fill out a foster application and will be approved by the animal control director before a cat/kittens are allowed to go into a foster home.

"Fostering is a vital component to helping us reduce the number of animals euthanized at animal control," Conder said. "It also helps to teach the animals social skills."

Fostering exposes cats/kittens to other animals, including dogs and children. They fostered animals are then set up for success before going into their new home.

Though animal shelter look for foster homes for many of its younger, foster situations also can be good for animals that tend to get extremely stressed or anxious in a shelter environment, and for cats that might need a little more one-on-one training or socialization.

"For those who do volunteer it can be challenging, but also rewarding," Conder said.

For more information, visit Animal Control's website and fill out a foster application.





Metro East Humane Society is working alongside Madison County Animal Care and Control to offer a program to adopt out cats to people who can house them in a barn.

The Working Cat Program is a way for people to adopt a cat and let it live in their barn or rural setting and the owner benefits from having the cat hunt mice and critters on their property.

Staff with the Metro East Humane Society said the program is in an effort to assist the county on becoming "no-kill" in the coming years.

Staff said these are feral cats who could otherwise be euthanized and they can't be adopted out traditionally but, thankfully, this program gives them another shot at life.

The cats are spayed/neutered, vaccinated, microchipped and ear-tipped prior to adoption. If you are interested in adopting one of the cats, call 618-656-4405 or e-mail info@mehs.org. The cats are free and staff recommends they are adopted in pairs.



CALL (618) 656-4405 OR EMAIL INFO@MEHS.ORG TO BE ADDED TO OUR WAITING LIST FOR FREE SPAY/NEUTERED, VACCINATED, EAR TIPPED AND MICROCHIPPED CATS.

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March Events















HOPE ONLY VALID AT DEWEY'S PIZZA IN EDWARDSVILLE 112 East Vandalia Street, Edwardsville, IL 62025 (618) 656-2200 **DEWMORE**







Shamrock Gummies

Bone Broth Treats for Your Dogs

1 cup plain homemade (or ready-made unsalted unseasoned) chicken stock 3 tbsp quality powdered gelatin* Handful parsley leaves

Measure cold broth into a small pan. Sprinkle the surface with gelatin powder and let sit for approximately five minutes or longer for the gelatin powder to bloom/gel. Gently stir the mixture over low heat until the gelatin is completely dissolved. Take care not to shortcut with high temperatures or overheat, as this can reduce the setting strength of your gelatin. Remove from heat. Puree the parsley on high with just enough cool water to liquefy and add to mixture for color. Pour mixture into a glass pan (cut and slice) or silicone molds (shapes). Chill to set.

Coo Coo for

Patnip

Although approximately 1/3 of cats couldn't care less about catnip, the rest flip for it. And drool. And race around! Why do they love it so much?

This plant produces Nepetalactone oil and that acts something like an aphrodisiac for cats. Is it harmful to them? Experts say no and there are no short term or long term ill effects on them.

Catnip is good for the overly laid back kitty too. They get some exercise jumping around in their euphoric state of "happy" time.

Fresh leaves provide the most pleasure. Pull off a leaf or two and roughly crumple and rub the leaf a bit to release the natural chemical before giving it to kitty. If your cat responds to it, they'll get a bit hyper

This plant is from the mint family and it is easy to grow. You can try it outdoors or keep it as a houseplant. Be careful to position it in a location that your cat can't get to it, otherwise you'll find it destroyed if they get their paws on







