It’s finally happening!

Groundbreaking for the new shelter to replace the current, antiquated facility, took place in early June. The new 16,000-square-foot building is designed to be a modern animal shelter, allowing staff to provide better care to the animals in a more efficient manner and to provide a safe place for the homeless animals of Ingham County.

The new shelter will be built using funds primarily supplied by the taxpayer-supported Animal Control Shelter Replacement and Operational Millage, passed overwhelmingly in 2016.

Private donations are also an important part of funding the new shelter.

The Ingham County Animal Shelter Fund (ICASF) has been in existence since 2012 and raises money to help pay for food, shelter, and medical care for animals at the shelter. With the passing of the millage for the new shelter, ICASF wants to make sure that the new shelter has improved veterinary medical facilities.

Every animal is now spayed or neutered before adoption, and while many animals are saved with veterinary assistance, improved medical and surgical facilities will allow the shelter to save even more animals that arrive with serious illnesses or injuries.

Dr. Karen Worthington, shelter veterinarian explains, “With the addition of the new equipment, animal care staff will be able to take better care of and monitor the shelter animals that we treat more effectively.

By adding x-ray equipment in-house, we will be able to diagnose conditions and start treatments sooner than if we had to send them to an outside clinic for assistance.”

Improved veterinary facilities will also enhance the shelter’s partnership with the Michigan State University College of Veterinary Medicine, which expands the capacity for care and helps train the next generation of veterinarians in surgery and shelter medicine.

Additionally, ICASF funds support Ingham County Animal Control’s public programs.

We kicked off our Capital Campaign on March 24, 2018 with a goal of raising $300,000. Generous donors, including matching grants from anonymous donors, have already helped us raise $292,186 to help animals in need. But we still need $7,814 to reach our goal and we’re counting on you to help.

With approximately 3,000 homeless pets coming to the shelter every year, the need has never been greater.

Through the continued generosity of anonymous donors, three matching grants are now available! These matching grants are a perfect opportunity to double the impact of your donation and give comfort and hope to our animal companions.

Use the donation form included in this publication, or donate online at icasfund.org.

Thank you for your continued support of the Ingham County Animal Shelter Fund!
9th Annual ICASF Woofer Walk + 5k Raises $9,000

With a record breaking 286 walkers and runners registered for this year’s event on May 19th, Ingham County Animal Shelter Fund’s Woofer Walk + 5K had another great turn out to help fight animal cruelty.

The event held on Michigan State University’s campus not only raises money for the cause, but also strives to raise awareness about animal cruelty cases and the need for resources to fight animal cruelty.

Competitive runners, leisurely walkers, and dogs of all kinds came out to the MSU Auditorium to enjoy pre-event activities before taking to the path along the Red Cedar River. Prior to the race, the crowd had the opportunity to mingle with Sparty and Ingham County Animal Control mascot Chippy, as well as visit vendors and enjoy music from Hot Beats Entertainment.

Despite a little bit of early rain and a small change to the course, the event raised over $9,000 to help fight animal cruelty.

Funds will provide surgeries, medications and treatments for animals that have been involved in cruelty and neglect cases.

Easter Egg Hunt Raises $2,000

Even though the April weather didn’t cooperate, dogs and kids alike had a great time participating in the 4th Annual Doggie Easter Egg Hunt and Kids Eggstravaganza on March 31st at Hawk Island Park in Lansing.

With temperatures hovering around 40 degrees, off-and-on rain and strong winds making for some soggy dogs and dripping raincoats. Still, our dedicated and amazing volunteers came out in force to make sure the egg hunts and other activities went smoothly.

Big thanks go out to all the local businesses and supporters who provided sponsorships, donations, or supplies for the egg hunts and the fun-filled activities for both the dogs and the kids. We also had some helpful Girl Scouts and Mason Junior Leo’s Club members that came to the shelter in the weeks before the Easter Egg Hunt to help us with the most important task of all—filling all of the Easter eggs with dog treats, candy, and stickers.

As a result of this great Ingham County community coming together, over $2,000 was raised to help the animals at the Ingham County Animal Shelter!

What can you say about an old dog?

Oh so much — if her name is Foxy Brown. Adopted in December 2013 from ICAC, she came to the shelter with severe skin allergies and an eye condition. She was old (aged 12 or 13), underweight, and with skin allergies so severe that she constantly chewed on herself. Foxy wasn’t expected to live much longer, and wanting her to die in a home and not a shelter cage, the shelter asked us to take her as a hospice foster.

Working with the vet, we put Foxy Brown on a special diet and gave her medicated eye drops. Wow, did she blossom! A beautiful shade of copper brown, she was “Foxy”. If we were not awake by 7 a.m. to feed her, she would nudge us while we were still sleeping. If her food was not available at 4 p.m., a few more nudges would remind us. She also knew when her eye drops were to be administered and she would walk away when she saw the bottle, but eventually came back to her bed to patiently await the medicated drops.

When we would brush her, she would make sure to roll on her side to expose her favorite spot for brushing—her belly! Foxy Brown absolutely loved other dogs and always looked forward to doggy daycare. Not wanting to miss out on anything, she would lie down for a rest in the middle of the play area, with all the other dogs passing back and forth around her. She was a joyful part of our family for 4-1/2 years and recently crossed the rainbow bridge.

What can you say about an old dog? She was smart, funny, kind and loving — and we will miss our beloved Foxy Brown forever. 🐶

Happy Tails

Guinness

Guinness came to the shelter as a stray on February 1, 2018. He was 5 years old, a handsome gray guy, but so reserved that he didn’t receive much attention in the large Kitty Kingdom room. Adopted in late March, he didn’t get along with the other animals in the home and was ultimately returned to the shelter.

When animals are returned to the shelter, potential adopters are often leery of adopting that animal and may wonder what’s wrong with it. This is unfair, as sometimes an animal and a home just don’t match. Guinness got along with other cats at the shelter, but not with the cats in the adopters’ home. Back at the shelter, Guinness was now tagged as “not friendly to other cats” and confined to a cage.

Time passed, but ICAC staff and volunteers are known for going to great lengths for each animal! One of the volunteers noticed this sweet boy and wrote, “What first attracted me to Guinness was how affectionate he is — as soon as I let him out [of the cage] the first time we met, he rubbed against me right away. He’s also got a very soft, cute meow.” Still, no one chose to adopt him and Guinness waited for a home.

Then on April 21, Guinness was taken to a mobile adoption event where the same volunteer was helping out. She wrote, “Every time he meowed my heart melted a little bit more until I couldn’t stand it and had to take him home.” And so, she did! “Now he’s been sleeping in bed with me (and being sure I wake up at the appropriate time to give him breakfast) and he’s still just as affectionate.”

A happy new beginning for a sweet guy. 🐾
Double Your DONATION

Donate now, and three generous matching donations will match up to $75,000!

Double Your IMPACT

Yes, I want to help the Ingham County Animal Control and Shelter realize the goal of a more modern, efficient, humane and user-friendly facility.

Please Accept My Donation of:
- $50,000
- $25,000
- $10,000
- $5,000
- $2,500
- $1,000
- $500
- Other amount: ________________

Payment Method:
- Cash
- Check
- Visa
- MasterCard

Signature

Information:
- Name
- Phone Number
- Email Address
- Street Address
- ZIP Code

NOTE:
Donations of $500 or above will be acknowledged on a donor appreciation display in the new shelter’s adoption lobby.

I do not want my donation publicly acknowledged

Please use the following name(s) when acknowledging my donation:

________________________
________________________
________________________

Complete this form & return with your donation to:
Ingham County Animal Shelter Fund
P.O. Box 238
Mason, Michigan 48854

Or Donate Online at ICASFUND.ORG
The 3rd Annual Save A Life Soirée was held Saturday, March 10th, at the Kellogg Center in East Lansing, and was a great success!

This event, which is co-hosted by Ingham County Animal Control and the Ingham County Animal Shelter Fund, is the biggest fundraiser of the year for the animals of Ingham County.

Guests spent the evening enjoying a wonderful dinner, creating fun memories with Looking Glass Photo, and enjoying lovely dinner music from local band, Blue Alchemy.

WLNS’s Chivon Kloepfer emceed the night’s event and highlighted a recap on the shelter’s many success stories in 2017.

ICAC Director John Dinon gave an update on the status of plans for the new shelter, then expected to break ground in May 2018 and open in early to mid 2019.

Guest auctioneer Scott MacKenzie, the executive director of the Charlevoix Area Humane Society, built the excitement while getting the guests involved in rousing bidding competitions for exciting prize packages including trips to Mackinac Island, Disney World, and a hot air balloon ride.

Guests participated in a silent auction, auction games, and a live auction filled with amazing items donated by many generous businesses and donors.

The event raised over $26,000 for the homeless animals of Ingham County and was made possible by many sponsors including Lansing Chiropractic, Preuss Pets, Animal Blood Resources International, and Events to Rent.

A big thank you to all the attendees, sponsors, donors and volunteers that made the Soirée possible!

Keep an eye out for information about our 4th Annual Save A Life Soirée, which will be held in the fall of 2019!

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**Julie’s first experience with ICAC** was when she went to donate toys and supplies from a previous dog that had passed away. She met a dog, Rosie, who stole her heart and so Julie decided to adopt her. From that trip, Julie realized that the shelter was focused on adoptions, not on euthanizing animals, which changed her perception of the organization. Julie and her husband adopted a second dog, Porter, a few years later. When the millage came up for a vote in 2016, Julie decided to participate by canvassing and making phone calls.

After that, she decided to become a shelter volunteer. What Julie likes best about volunteering for ICAC is that there are so many different ways to help. Due to her work schedule, she’s not available during weekday hours, but she does mobile adoption events and special events on the weekends. She also fosters kittens. She particularly likes doing events where she has contact with the public. She says that mobile adoption events are fun when doing the actual adoptions, and they’re also a great way to raise awareness about all the other good things that ICAC does.

In her free time, Julie likes training with her dogs, doing yoga, and spending time with friends and family. In addition to Rosie and Porter, dogs she adopted from ICAC, Julie also has two cats, Missy and Penny.

Julie would like others to know that the success of the adoption and outreach programs at ICAC depend on volunteers. It cannot be done by staff alone. She encourages everyone to take the volunteer orientation class and then try out different types of activities. She says, “You don’t have to be an animal expert. The number one thing is to show up and be willing to learn as you go!”

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**Hailey** grew up training and working with dogs, so when she and her aunt began looking for a place to volunteer, she knew just where to look. They found ICAC and have never left. Hailey volunteered for six years, then made a bigger commitment by joining the animal care staff two and a half years ago.

One of Hailey’s favorite experiences at ICAC was the opportunity to foster a little kitten named Sketch. He was very sick when he first arrived and it was unclear whether or not he would make it. Hailey agreed to foster him in hopes that round-the-clock care would help his chances of survival. The little guy’s fighting spirit was amazing! Though there were a few times she thought he might not make it, he always pulled through. Although it was a difficult road, Hailey says it was amazing to see him eventually get adopted out into his forever home.

In her free time, Hailey likes going geocaching (an international scavenger hunt) with her dogs, as well as going to cosplay conventions. She also loves taking care of all of her rescue animals from ICAC, including four dogs, three cats, three birds, two snakes, and one bearded dragon!

What does Hailey like best about working for ICAC? Being able to work with the animals that need a little extra attention.

When asked what words of wisdom she would share with others considering volunteering, working, or donating to ICAC, Hailey stated, “It isn’t easy and it isn’t always fun, but seeing the difference we make in the lives of people and animals makes it worth it!”

Thank you for making such an impact on the animals at ICAC, Hailey!