Make a memorial donation

Set up automatic monthly giving

Choose CCHS when you use Amazon Smile

Drop off donations from our wish list

Become a foster volunteer

Leave CCHS something in your will

Save, fold, and drop off your newspapers

Adopt a pet

Shop the CCHS booth at Antiques & More

Take up a collection at school or work

Share our Facebook and Instagram posts

Participate in the Christie Clinic Illinois Marathon

Check out Serionix air filters



ADOPTABLES



Pets available as of Feb. 9, 2022.

See all available pets online at **www.cuhumane.org**Or use the camera on your smartphone to scan the QR Code above.

APRIL FAULKER, CCHS HUMANE EDUCATOR

FERAL CATS: A BREED ALL THEIR OWN



In every town across America, free roaming cats can be found. Some of them are owned cats who walk the streets by day and are tucked in at night by loving owners. Some have been abandoned when an owner leaves and now they fend for themselves. Some of them are feral cats and these are a breed all their own.

50 caretakers assisted Feral cats are the mysterious, resilient, underrated members of every community. Akin to the neighborhood raccoons and squirrels, these wild cats live among people but prefer to cohabitate with other cats in groups called colonies. Often, a well-meaning person will decide to help these cats by putting out a little food. What that well-meaning person may not have realized is that these cats are *survivors* and quick to sniff out resources. Soon cats from miles around are coming over for dinner.

40 surgery days

In addition, when access to resources increases, the colony can support more kittens. A group of 5 cats can quickly become a group of 25 in just a few short months. This is why it's best to stabilize a population of feral cats through trap, neuter, and return (TNR) programs.

250+ surgeries performed TNR programs are an essential part of community cat health. These programs make sure that feral cats stop reproducing and provide the cats with life saving vaccines. Champaign County Humane Society, along with other organizations in the area, are committed to providing support to our community cats and the people that care for them.





A COMING SOON!

HUMANESOCIETY



- Demolition and site cleanup occurred in Fall 2021. Construction began at the end of November, and progress has been steady.
- Focus has been on the MAIN BUILDING, which will house most of our shelter operations including the adoption center, veterinary department, and administrative offices.
- Exterior walls had to be in-filled where large garage/warehouse doors had been.
- First floor studs are in place, electrical wiring and plumbing lines are being installed, and second floor studs are going in.





Although we're not re-opening our capital campaign, we welcome donations for the following *specific* needs:

- IT infrastructure and hardware (server and work stations).
- Large flat-screen monitors for conference room and Education Building.
- Durable flooring for the dog training area.
- Special equipment for kennel cleaning & maintenance.



Reflections and Intentions

The start of a new year often comes with a combination of reflection on the year past and intention for the year ahead. As we look back here at CCHS, we're both grateful and proud: Proud of the smooth operation of our shelter, overcoming the challenges of the pandemic, and making great progress on our capital project – construction of our future campus in Champaign. And we're grateful for all our supporters whose gifts have made it all possible.

We have a long list of "Intentions" for 2022, and securing the future of CCHS is one of them. Planned gifts, like those we received from Queenie Mills and Shirley Huber Merryman, have provided us with the financial foundation we enjoy today. You too can plan to make a lasting gift to the animals, and we've got a new tool to help you.

FreeWill is a free online resource that guides users through the process of creating a legally valid will. In just 20 minutes, one can protect themselves, their loved ones – including pets – and even leave a gift to CCHS.

If one of your intentions for the new year is to address some personal business you've been putting off - like estate planning - FreeWill can help you get started for free.

Estate planning is important for everyone regardless of their age or wealth, and it is especially important for pet-owners. Every pet deserves a lifetime of security, safety, and love.

When creating a will or trust, pet-owners can designate a guardian to ensure that no matter what happens, their animal companions will always have a caring home.

Illinois even has a **pet trust** law that enables pet owners to designate funds for the care of their pets. You can also use the pet trust to appoint a caregiver and document instructions regarding vet care and other specific needs of your pets. Creating a pet trust has the present-day benefit of providing peace of mind.

Please reach out to Executive Director Mary "Tief" Tiefenbrunn at director@cuhumane.org or 217-344-7297 with any questions about including CCHS in your estate plan.

Visit **FreeWill.com/CCHS** or scan the QR Code above with the camera on your smartphone or tablet to get started.





Shelby and Jack Stifle have been supporters of CCHS for many years! Shelby has been

- a volunteer
- a board member (4 terms!)
- the "Czarina of Linens" at the GIANT
 Garage Sale
- and an enthusiastic Fur Ball committee member and auction bidder.

CCHS feline alumni, Abby and Sophie, graciously allow Shelby and Jack to share their home.









We are grateful for the continued support and generosity of Tito's Handmade Vodka. When they say they are, "Vodka for dog people," they mean it!

Tito's was a Presenting Paw sponsor for our very first online Fur Ball auction in 2021, *and* they matched donations of \$1,500 during the #BettyWhite Challenge this past January.

Many Thanks and "Cheers," to Tito's!

