



# Miss Nibbles' News



greetings from the president

Spring 2020

Message from the President,

For cats and dogs at the Bella Vista Animal Shelter, life goes on as usual. Our dedicated and loving staff is there every day looking after them, just like always. With our cleaning protocol, it may be one of safest buildings to enter in today's environment. Still, we can't take a chance of COVID-19 community spread so only serious adopters are allowed at the shelter for now. My hope is that everyone is following CDC Guidelines so we can gain control of this virus and return to our "new" normal lives. I'm going to address two issues in my message for this newsletter: Microchips and Funding.

A microchip for cats and dogs is about the size of small grain of rice. It is inserted on the back of the neck between the shoulders so quickly, the dog or cat doesn't realize it happened. Once implanted, the animal is identifiable for life by anyone with a reading wand and access to a database. You can have your furry friends chipped by your veterinarian or bring them to the shelter where for \$20 they will be chipped and entered in a data base. Both the shelter and your Bella Vista Animal Control Officer have wands and access to the data base. Over half the dogs brought to the shelter are returned to their owners. If chipped, they could be returned home by animal control and avoid being taken to the shelter and confined until being reclaimed.

Surrounding major cities (Rogers, Springdale, Fayetteville) have replaced dog licensing and tags with microchipping. Bella Vista is on the cusp of doing the same but for some reason, our city council is reluctant to do away with licenses and tags entirely. We already know tags don't work. Animal Control has not picked up a dog with a city tag to date. Microchipping and registration would be a lifetime "license" for your dog.

The BVAS is facing the uncertainty of holding our major fund-raising events this year. They are the Garage Sale, Pars for Paws Golf Tournament and Wiener/Corgi Races. Area small businesses are the lifeblood for the golf tournament and races. During this pandemic, we understand when they are reluctant to make commitments even out as far as July and October. The city tells us they are unable to commit more funds to the shelter. That means the shelter will receive less than 25% of expenses from the City of Bella Vista this year. I would like to see a 50/50 partnership with our city

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**Adopt**  
DON'T SHOP

#### Board of Directors

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Liz Lottmann, Secretary

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Abby Swager

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#### Alt Board Members

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Exec. Director

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Manager

Jason Winter, Asst. Shelter  
Manager

Lisa Parker-Stiles

Sonny Crabb

Tori Fritz

Maria Serrano



Carryover  
from

2019

21

**Dogs**  
March 31, 2020  
26 Dogs In House 1 Dog in Foster Care

Month	Incoming City	Incoming Not City	Adopted	Reclaim	Rescue	Return	DOA	Euthanized	Foster	Other
Jan	39	7	13	30	0	0	1	0	0	0
Feb	34	3	13	21	0	1	1	0	0	0
Mar	27	3	13	17	1	1	1	0	0	0
Apr										
May										
Totals	100	13	39	68	1	2	3	0	0	0

113

**Cats**  
March 31, 2020 52 Cats In House

Carryover  
from

2019

60

Month	Incoming City	Incoming Not City	Adopted	Reclaim	Rescue	Return	DOA	Euthanized	Foster	Other
Jan	18	1	28	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
Feb	5	3	11	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Mar	10	1	4	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Apr										
May										
Totals	33	5	43	2	0	1	1	1	0	0

38



**2020 Yearly Stats**

Letter from the President continued...

and its taxpayers. I think that would make a great example of government and a non-profit working together for the benefit of all citizens.

It's only with the generosity of our supporters that we can provide our services to all residents of Bella Vista. We would like to keep you informed through this newsletter and occasional updates. If you are reading this from an email, great. If you are reading a paper copy, please send an email to [bvas\\_ed@yahoo.com](mailto:bvas_ed@yahoo.com) and request to be added to our email distribution list. We can save paper and printing cost by using email.

Stay well,

Curt Stoops, President BVAS Board of Directors

## *In Loving Memory of*

### *Beloved Friends and Family*

Gene Lefler  
Evern Shirley Teal  
Robert Harris  
Vickeye Flemming  
Rachel Shelby Wulz  
April Arambashich  
Mary Louise Hanlon  
Janice Satterfield  
Pauline Trevino  
Barb Paulos  
Frank Barbieri  
Bonnie Cameron  
Karen Barthman  
Russell Crabtree  
Kelly O'Connell  
Kenneth Stewart  
Ron Rose  
Charles Kovach  
Linda Kent

### *Beloved Pets*

Twiggy Wood  
Bobby Schrimf  
China Drumm  
Lange Zemlicka  
Libby Kiker  
Bentley Werts  
Maximus Provenza  
Kai Marsh  
Kady Kiley  
Suma Parker  
Lola Linden  
Sally Peterson

## Wish List

High Quality Dry Dog & Cat Food  
Dog Toys      Purina Kitten Chow      Clay Cat Litter  
Paper Towels      Bleach      Laundry Detergent  
Large Heavy Duty Trash Bags      Dishwashing Detergent  
Dog & Cat Frontline      Rubber-backed Rugs  
Odo Ban Disinfectant      Blankets & Towels  
Printer Cartridges (call to confirm type)

Search for  
**@BellaVistaAnimalShelter**  
on Facebook.

## SENIORS FOR SENIORS

BVAS Seniors for Seniors adoption program is open to all. It was developed to help senior humans rediscover the joys of having a cat or dog in their lives, and the program places senior cats and dogs (typically over 6 years of age) with senior citizens who are 60 years of age or older.

BVAS expert matchmakers will help you select a companion who fits into your lifestyle and housing situation without an adoption fee with an approved adoption application.





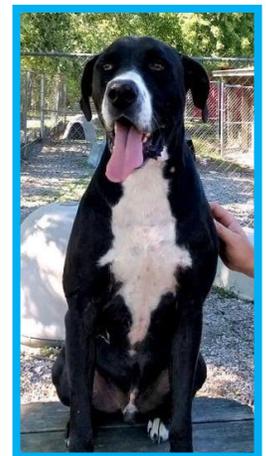
*Tonka*



**Dwight**



**Falco**



**MARVIN**



*Ruben*



**Missy**



## Social Distancing & Pets

It is healthy to spend time outdoors while physical distancing, as long as you are feeling well and can remain at least 6 feet away from other people. Avoid crowded areas like dog parks and busy trails, but quiet neighborhood streets and less popular trails can give you an excellent opportunity to get outside to a long walk with your dog. Fresh air and exercise will likely alleviate some of the stress and anxiety that you may be feeling, while giving your dog some fun and exercise.

If you have cats, find new ways to play with them indoors. There are many different types of cat toys available (many of which can be ordered online, allowing you to avoid a shopping trip), but cardboard boxes and balled-up paper that you likely already have at home can also provide a source of entertainment for both you and your cat.

In the animal care field we can see many bad things that people do to animals. We also are very fortunate to see the compassionate and generous side of people. Adopting a senior dog is a very hard thing to do for most people. They know that they are only going to have the animal for a short amount of time. On the other hand, no senior dog deserves to be discarded and allowed to die in a shelter after giving love to families for so many years.



Siggy came into the Shelter in 2013. She was a two year old Shepherd Mix. She lived in a loving home until 2017 when the family needed to bring her back to the shelter because they had a two year old child in the home.

Siggy was adopted in 2018 to a loving couple. She had two good years with the family. The couple divorced and Siggy was caught in the cross fire. Siggy came back to the Shelter in 2020. She was here for a month until the most amazing couple came to the shelter to see her. They already have a senior dog that is ten years old like Siggy. They wanted to adopt Siggy and make sure that the time she has left is in a loving home with people who will do anything to make sure she has the most amazing life. These are the types of adoptions and unions that we live for at the shelter. We are so happy for Siggy and her new family.

Laurie May  
Shelter Manager

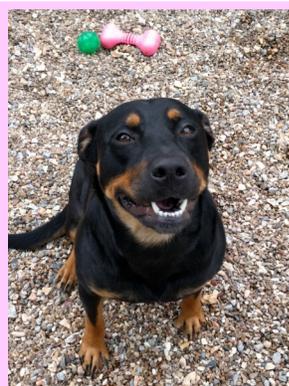
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## More **SPOTLIGHT PETS** available for adoption



**Fagan**



*Nadia*

Visit us On Petfinder.com!

Adoption fees: Dogs \$60, Cats \$45.

Fees cover:

Spay/neuter

Worm treatments

Age appropriate shots including rabies inoculation (if old enough); dogs, DHLPP, cats FVRCP; free vet check and microchipping.

## PAW-DEMIC 2020 REPORT Your Animal Shelter and You!

With the majority of people across this country and the world sheltering in place at home because of COVID-19, the majority of the Bella Vista Animal Shelter Staff are still hard at work. This dedicated staff continue to step up~ sacrificing their health for the animals they love! Everyday, seven days a week, they are at the Shelter cleaning, feeding, giving medical care, intaking animals after hours and most importantly loving the cats and dogs that call the BVAS home until returned to owners or adopted.

Right now, the Bella Vista Animal Shelter is not taking Volunteers or Community Service work but we ARE still taking loving, prospective, adoptive families who wish to spend their time and love with a new, furry, family friend. Hours of operation remain Tuesday through Sunday from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. (Closed Monday).

While it's easy to look at the negative effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, let's look also to the PAWS-ATIVES that have emerged.

Pet parents are home more with their four-legged friends who are loving it!

Pet loving parents can be teaching their home bound children both pet education and pet training but also the art of giving ~ to both pets and people!

Adopting a Shelter Pet can relieve stress and anxiety and is an alternative treatment for many illnesses such as depression or even loneliness.

With the economic climate challenging all Americans, it is also extremely important right now to support your non-profit animal shelter! Expenses to care for these loving animals continue every day. Please continue to bless your local Shelter with what you can spare. Right now, the BVAS may not be able to accommodate the family visit but remember that what you give every day is seriously appreciated!

We wish you and your family health and happiness during these difficult days and look forward to inviting you back to the Shelter when this virus is conquered!

Deidre Knight-Matney  
Executive Director



WE  OUR VOLUNTEERS!



We are a 501(c)3 organization dedicated to the rescue & rehabilitation of the strays in the Bella Vista. Our Mission is to provide food shelter and medical care for the animals in need - until they can be adopted into loving homes. Our facility like many others operates solely on the kind-hearted donations from private parties, volunteers & the community. Thank you to all that have donated to the shelter past & present, as well as those of you that have helped to save an animal, by welcoming them into your heart and home by adopting a homeless pet.

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Visit us on the Web at <http://www.bellavista-animalshelter.org>

Bella Vista Animal Shelter  
A 501(c)3 organization  
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(479) 855-6020

