

Boone County Sheriff's Office

Animal Control Division: Full Time Officer Proposal



Created by: Deputy Hannah Fisher

September 2017

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Overview of Proposal

This Full Time Officer Proposal serves to provide validation and support for the need of a Full Time Animal Control Officer position in Boone County.

Extensive research was completed and many resources were involved in the creation of this proposal; however, the contents are the work of Deputy Hannah Fisher and have been specifically created or collected for Boone County and for the Boone County Sheriff's Office.

The letters and emails of support referenced in Section 4 are the words of the indicated writer and were merely printed by Deputy Fisher; no alterations to the words were made. Hard copies of these documents are available upon request.

Estimated Domestic Animal Population

According to the US Census Bureau, the population in Boone County in 2010 was 56,640. From 2010-2015, Boone County saw a 12% increase in population, bringing the total to 63,437 persons.

According to recent pet ownership research, 36.5% of persons own a dog and the average dog owner owns 1.6 dogs. Therefore, there is an estimated **37,047** domestic dogs in Boone County.

According to the research, 30.4% of persons own a cat and the average cat owner owns 2.1 cats. Therefore, there is an estimated total of **40,498** domestic cats in Boone County.

Other domestic animals, such as rabbits, reptiles, small rodents, etc, are not included in these statistics. Additionally, this data is nearly three years old. Therefore, it can only be assumed that this is a **low** estimate of:

77,545 domestic animals (18% more than the number of persons in Boone County).

2014-2016 Raw Data (Individual Call Types)

2014

<u>Call Type</u>	<u>BCSO</u>	<u>All Agencies</u>	<u>BCSO %</u>	
Dog (10-11)	135	510	26.47%	
Dog Bite(10-11B)	10	32	31.25%	
Livestock (10-54)	87	130	66.92%	
General (Animal)	85	224	37.95%	2014 Total: 896

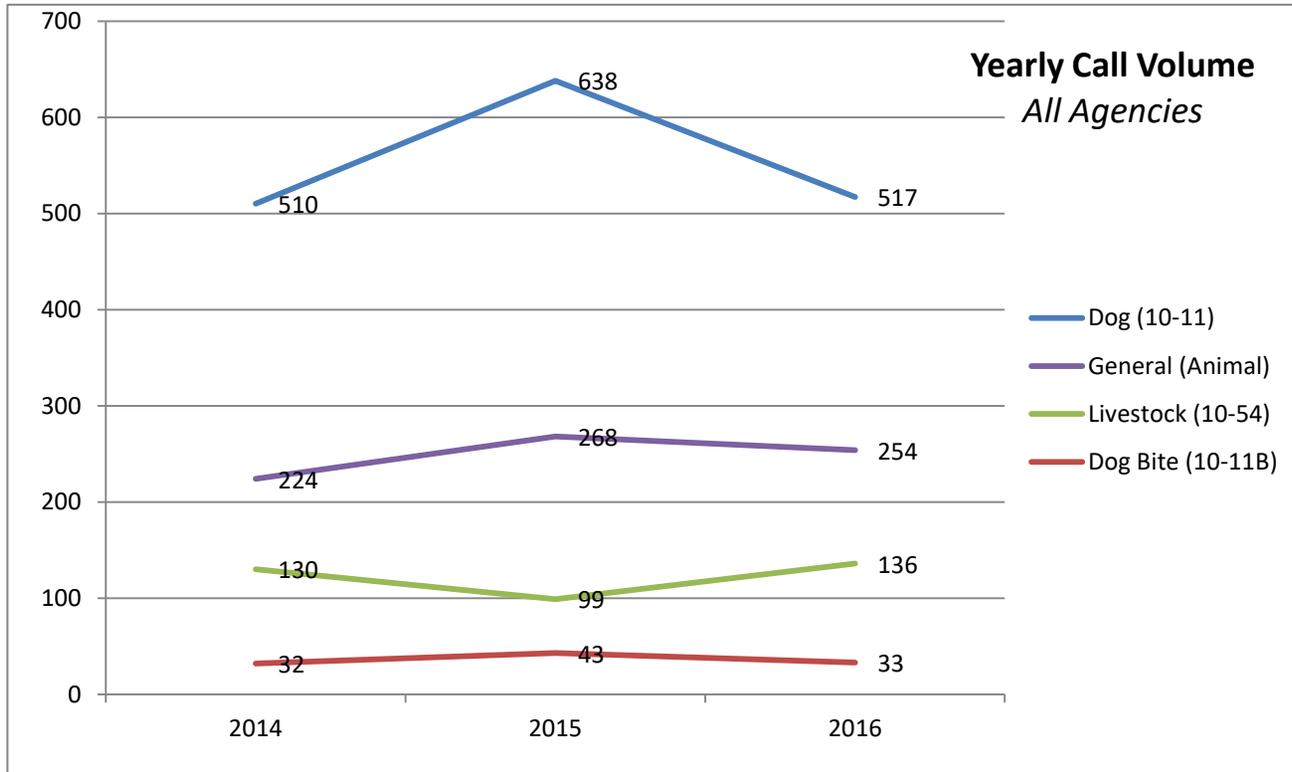
2015

<u>Call Type</u>	<u>BCSO</u>	<u>All Agencies</u>	<u>BCSO %</u>	
Dog (10-11)	129	638	20.22%	
Dog Bite(10-11B)	13	43	30.23%	
Livestock (10-54)	61	99	61.62%	
General (Animal)	96	268	35.82%	2015 Total: 1048

2016

<u>Call Type</u>	<u>BCSO</u>	<u>All Agencies</u>	<u>BCSO %</u>	
Dog (10-11)	107	517	20.70%	
Dog Bite(10-11B)	10	33	30.30%	
Livestock (10-54)	91	136	66.91%	
General (Animal)	76	254	29.92%	2016 Total: 940

2014-2016 Illustrated Data (Individual Call Types)



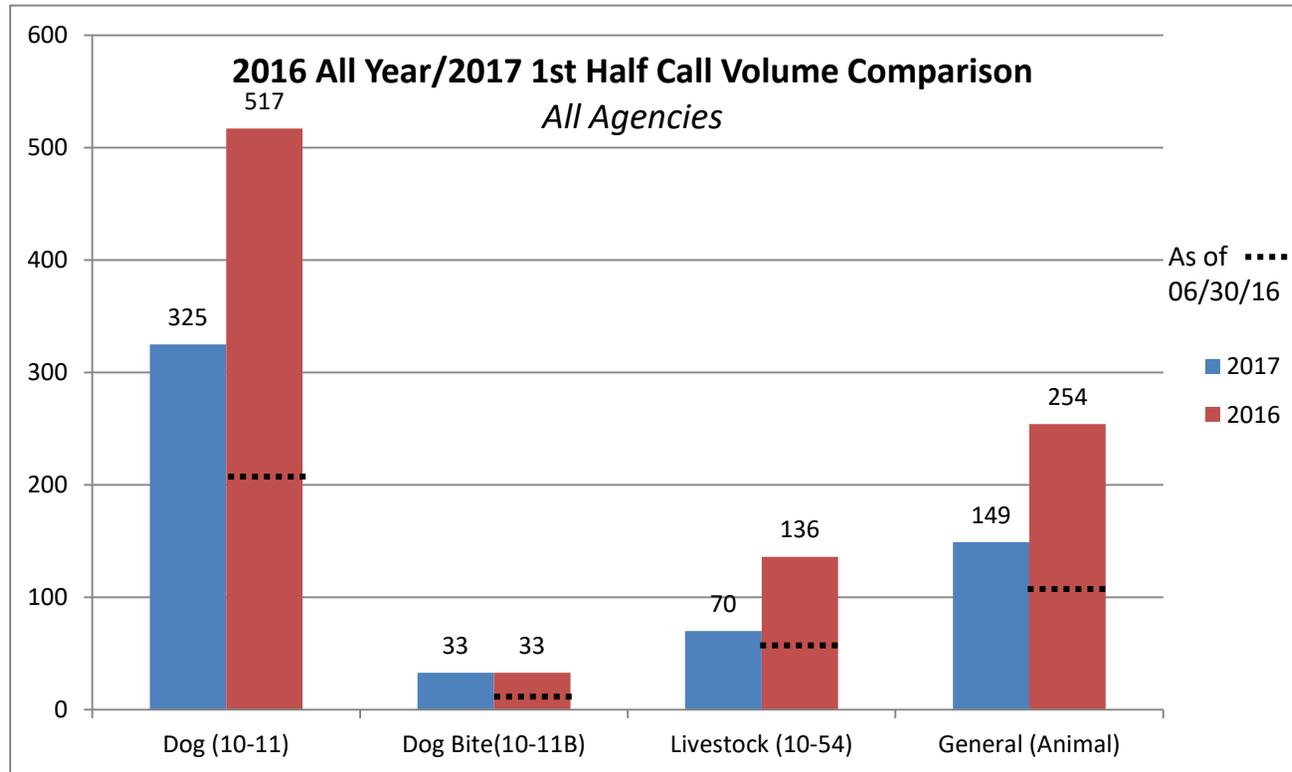
2017 1st Half Raw Data (Individual Call Types)

2017

<u>Call Type</u>	<u>BCSO</u>	<u>All Agencies</u>	<u>BCSO %</u>
Dog (10-11)	88	325	27.08%
Dog Bite(10-11B)	8	33	24.24%
Livestock (10-54)	48	70	68.57%
General (Animal)	64	149	42.95%

2017 Total: 577

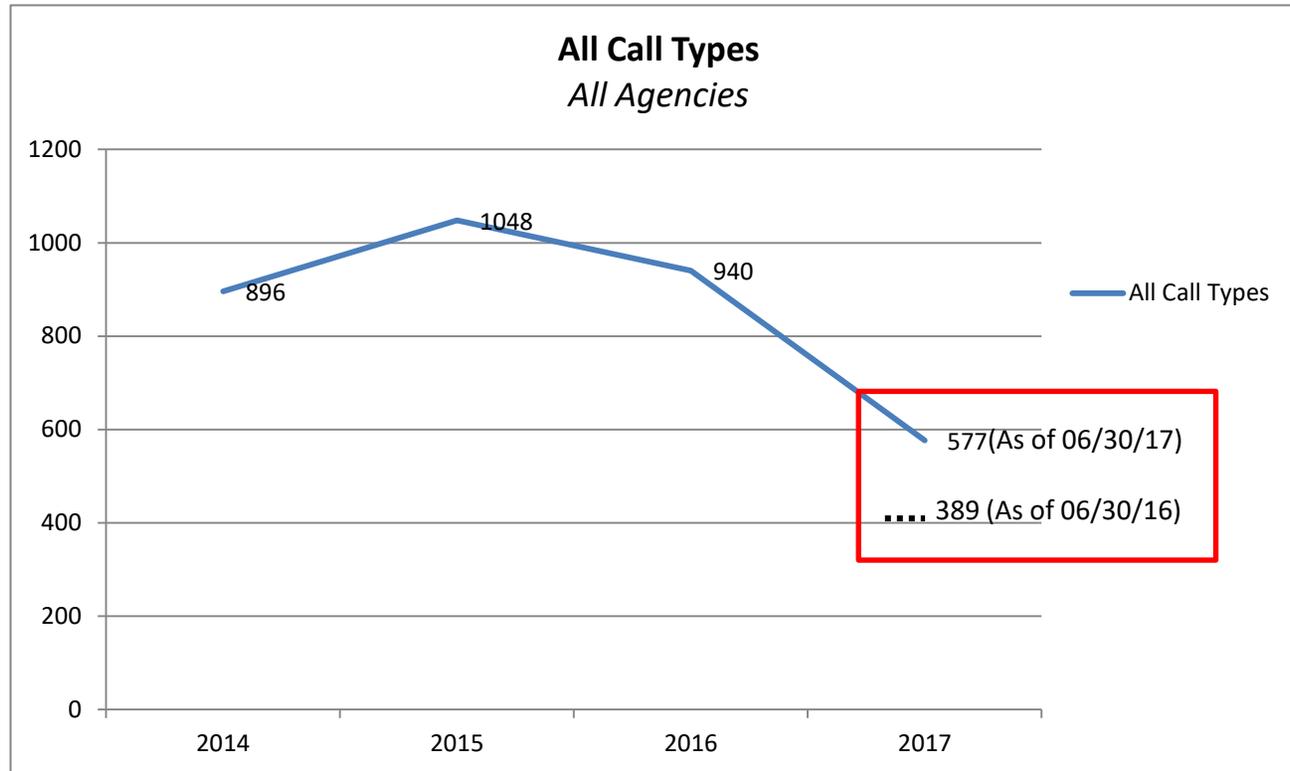
2017 Illustrated Data (Individual Call Types)



2014-2017 Raw Data (All Call Types)

<u>Year</u>	<u>Total</u>
2014	896
2015	1048
2016	940
2017 *1st Half	577

2014-2017 Illustrated Data (All Call Types)



Humane Society for Boone County

Dog Related Calls

*Edited version of the original compiled by the K9 Foster Director/Irrelevant items such as name, breed, and age of animal removed

DATE	TIME	WHO CALLED AND LOCATION OF PICK-UP	SOURCE OF CONTACT	# OF ANIMALS	REASON FOR RECEIVING ANIMAL	COMMENTS
01/11/16	4:30 PM	Lebanon	Hotline	1	Stray	
06/01/16	unknown			1		
09/15/16	2:30 AM	Lebanon	Street Department	1	Stray	
10/30/16	3:00 PM	Thorntown	Thorntown	1	Strays	
11/01/16	9:30 AM	Lebanon	Street Department	1	Stray	
12/02/16	11:00 AM	Lebanon	Hotline	1	Abandonment	
12/13/16		Thorntown	Finder	1	living in van	
01/23/17	6:30 PM	Jamestown	Police	1	Stray	
01/24/17	4:00 PM	Lebanon	Street Department	1	Lost	Finder could not keep
02/02/17	3:20 PM	Lebanon	Finder	1	Stray	
02/03/17	6:00 PM	Jamestown	Police	1	Surrender	
02/06/17	4:00 PM	Zionsville	Owner	2	Found Dog	
02/07/17	7:00 AM	Lebanon	Police	1	Surrender	
02/08/17	3:30 PM	Lebanon	Owner	1	Surrender	
02/08/17	4:30 PM	Zionsville	Owner	1	Found Dog	
02/09/17	5:00 PM	Thorntown	Finder	1	Found Dog	
02/12/17	5:00 PM	Zionsville	Finder	1	Owner	
02/13/17	11:00 PM	Lebanon	Police	1	arrested	
02/15/17	6:00 PM	Thorntown	Owner	1	Surrender	

Date	Time	Location	Source	Count	Disposition	Notes
02/17/17	4:00 PM	Lebanon	Street Department	1	Surrender	
02/17/17	4:00 PM	Lebanon	Street Department	1	Stray	
02/21/17	4:00 PM	Lebanon	Owner	1	Surrender	
02/22/17	4:00 PM	Lebanon	Finder	1	Stray	Puppy has been on FB for 2 weeks. Skinny and dehydrated. Returned to Owner with Police escort. Owner lives with Winston and Major's Owners. His name is Mike (765-393-7177). He was sent information about low cost neuter.
02/24/17	3:30 PM	Lebanon	Finder	1	Stray	Dog found trapped in the mud by Love's Gas Station. Not sure if he was hit, but he was in shock. Rushed to the vet.
02/25/17	5:00 PM	Lebanon	Finder/Police	1	Found Dog	
03/01/17	3:30 PM	Lebanon	Finder	1	Found Dog	Dog was trapped by FIDO
03/16/17	9:30 AM	Lebanon	Finder-- Pleasant Paws	2	Running Loose	524 West Dicks Amanda--765-336-1355 and Brian 765-336-2062 FALIN (4820 30000 /00 East) (703) 310-0872 BOUTNER--Danner (317) 849-1845 Owner's brother and neighbors contacted HSforBC about taking the dog. The Police called the next day for HSforBC to pick up the dog. Owner was given the choice of surrendering the dog or arrest. Dog was left in a car for 3 days, beaten, and drugged.
03/17/17	3:30 PM	Whitestown	Police	1	Owner abuse	Returned to Owner on 4/4/17.
03/27/17	3:30 PM	Lebanon	Finder	1	Stray	
03/27/17	4:00 PM	Lebanon	Police	1	Stray	
03/28/17	8:00 PM	Lebanon	Police	1	Surrender	Owner deceased (513 Main Street)
03/29/17	3:30 PM	Lebanon	Owner	2	Surrender	Owner came forward on 4/4/17. Dog had been running loose in Hoosier Estates. This is from the same Owners as Tin Tin (claimed they had rehomed him). Ryan Gentry--120 Helena Ct. 765-891-2168
04/04/17	1:30 PM	Lebanon	Finder	1	Stray	Dogs were held for 6 days before Owner contacted HS. Winston bit volunteer while in tower. Police were called to talk to Owner at pick up. Warned them that they would be
04/06/17	4:00 PM	Lebanon	Finder	2	Stray	Chip # OA13295D2D
04/11/17	6:30 PM	Lebanon	Finder	2	Stray	
04/11/17	6:30 PM	Lebanon	Finder	2	Stray	
04/12/17	4:00 PM	Whitestown	Finder	1	Stray	Chip # OA125E504D

04/13/17	4:30 PM	Lebanon	Police	1	Stray	
04/14/17	3:45 PM	Jamestown	Finder	1	Stray	
04/14/17	4:30 AM	Lebanon	Finder	1	Stray	
						Owner Laura Ferch. Previous Owners Jason and Crystal Stephens. phone 812-821-0201 Owner did not come forward. chip # 911001001327690
04/16/17	1:40 PM	Lebanon	Police	1	Stray	
04/16/17	2:30 PM	Thorntown	Police	1	Stray	
						Returned Karma to Owner because she is nursing puppies. She was very skinny. Will be taking him puppy food for her and babies. Trying to get him to spay her and surrender pups.
04/16/17	3:00 PM	Lebanon	Police	1	Stray	
04/17/17	8:00 PM	Lebaon	Finder	1	Stray	Amy Coffman 317-794-8894 704 Klotz Street
						This was only posted on FB. I had no involvement, other than to comment on the post.
04/19/17	8:00 AM	Lebanon	Finder	2	Stray	
						This was only posted on FB. I had no involvement, other than to comment on the post.
04/24/17	3:00 PM	Lebanon	FB	1	Stray	
04/24/17	9:00 PM	Jamestown	Police	2	Stray	Chihuahua chipped: #485E763B39 Original Owner (meagan Danielle Long) gave pup (original name was Tucker) to Tiffany Reuzenaar. He got out after he was given a bath. He was posted on FB for a full day before anyone contacted HSforBC. Tiffany never responded to messages after an initial conversation.
04/25/17	12:00 PM	Lebanon	Finder	1	Stray	
						Owner came forward on 4/4/17. Dog had been running loose in Hoosier Estates. This is from the same Owners as Tin Tin (claimed they had rehomed him). Ryan Gentry--120 Helena Ct. 765-891-2168
04/25/17	6:00 PM	Lebanon	Finder--Christy Brubaker saw on the road.	1	Stray	
04/25/17	5:00 PM	Lebanon	Owner	1	Surrender	Surrendered by Cheryl Jones. 5920 North Howard Street
						This was only posted on FB. I had no involvement, other than to see the post.
04/28/17	2:00 PM	Lebanon	FB	1	Stray	
						This was only posted on FB. I had no involvement, other than to see the post and tag Owners.
04/29/17	10:00 PM	Lebanon	Finder	1	Stray	
						Dogs were found on I65. I helped collect the bodies and return them to Owners.
04/30/17	10:00 AM	Lebanon	FB	2	Running Loose	I posted this dog for finders about a week ago. Finder could not keep any longer, so I went to collect dog. Dog has a chip, but it is not registered to anyone. Waiting to see if chip company can track someone down. Chip #941000017700509
04/30/17	4:00 PM	Lebanon	Finder	1	Stray	

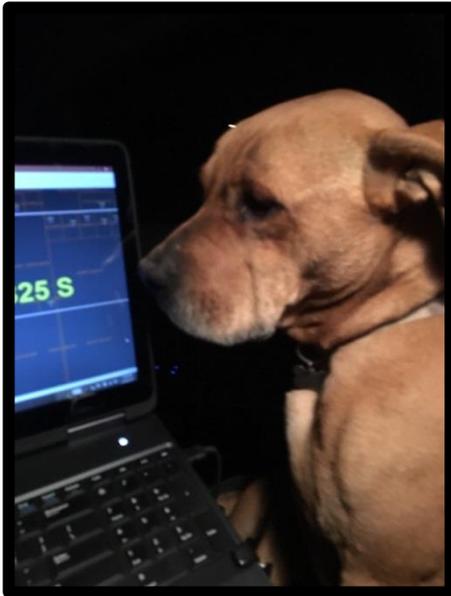
05/03/17	4:00 PM	Whitestown	Hotline	1	Stray	Finder held for 7 days without luck finding the Owner (IndyLost Pets, flyers, FB)
05/03/17	9:00 PM	Lebanon	Owner	1	Surrender	
05/07/17	2:00 AM	Lebanon	Police	1	Stray	
05/07/17	6:30 PM	Whitestown	Police	1	Stray	
05/10/17	10:00 AM	Lebanon	FB	2	Stray	This was only posted on FB. I had no involvement, other than to see the post and tag Owners.
05/10/17	7:00 PM	Lebanon	FB	1	Stray	
05/10/17	5:00 PM	Zionsville	Hotline	1	Stray	Dumped on a farm. Dog chipped #985112003200766. Owner said she had rehomed the dog. She did not know who had it last and how it got to the farm. Owner Clarrisa Villegas-Partida (7153 Mars Drive, 317-450-2378).
05/14/17	5:00 PM	Lebanon	FB	1	Stray Did not receive--just scanned	This was only posted on FB. I had no involvement, other than to see the post.
05/15/17	7:20 PM	Thorntown	FB	1	Stray	Finder is holding and will keep if Owner not found. Either has worms or is pregnant.
05/15/17	4:45 PM	Advance	Police	1	Abandoned	This dog was in the same abandoned house as the emaciated male boxer and starving kitten. 206 Walnut
05/15/17	11:00 PM	Advance	Police	2	Abandoned	206 Walnut
05/16/17	5:50 PM	Lebanon	FB	1	Stray Did not receive--just scanned	This was only posted on FB. I had no involvement, other than to comment on the post and drive by the park.
05/16/17	9:30 PM	Lebanon	Police	1	Stray	Dog looked very skinny. It was determined that the dog was elderly/ill and returned to Owner. Microchipped #981020017087977.
05/17/17	9:00 PM	Lebanon	Police	1	Stray	Helena Court--Dog was posted on FB, due to trying to escape out of garage. Neighbor was concerned and called Police.
05/18/17	3:00 AM	Lebanon	Police	1	Stray	Animal was found to have food and water.
05/19/17	5:00 PM	Lebanon	FB	1	Stray	Officer Taylor Nielson called. She almost hit the dog, so picked it up. I emailed the dog's home to her and she
05/19/17	5:00 PM	Lebanon	FB	1	Stray	Friend messaged me on FB and I told her where he lives. I think this was the same boxer that was trying to escape from her garage on 5/17.
05/19/17	5:00 PM	Lebanon	FB	2	Stray	I scanned them and Owner came looking at about the same time.

05/19/17	3:00 PM	Lebanon	Police	1	Did not receive	Police texted me and I texted back the Owner's information. Police called because the dog was left behind at house where people were evicted and was barking at people aggressively.
05/19/17	3:30 PM	Lebanon	Police	1	Did not receive	Police contacted Owner and he came on a bike (very intoxicated). Dog went with exgirlfriend (Sabrina).
05/19/17	10:00 PM	Lebanon	Text	2	Did not Receive	I was texted by Jess. Her friend found Winston. I gave her the address. Owner was still looking for Major.
05/21/17	8:00 PM	Lebanon	FB	1	Did not receive	I did not have any involvement with this. I just saw it on FB. I was called out of a farm on Jonn snaw road because a dog was on the property. Owner had told the Police verbally that he might shoot the dog if it came too close to his family. Dog was thin and appeared hurt/bad nails. Had a collar. Dog took off through the fields towards 100 S. Dog's Owner eventually Dog was called in because it was said to be in someone's yard being aggressive with their dogs.
05/21/17	11:00 AM	Lebanon	Police	1	Did not Receive	Sheauna Corbeau got him from her mother. He was kept in a small room and needs socialized.
05/21/17	3:00 PM	Advance	Police Text	1	Stray	Ricky McDonald was Owner. He currently lives at 323 North East Street Apt. D13. Dogs were picked up at 704 North West Street. Found out Roxy was also the mother of Myla. That means she has had at least 2 litters.
05/30/17	8:00 PM	Lebanon	FB	1	Surrender	Person taking care of the dog threatened to throw it out if Street Department didn't pick it up. Deputy Hannah was able to get surrender form from Owner, who is in prison. Owner is Dani Coffman.
05/30/17	4:00 PM	Lebanon	Police	2	Abandoned	Dog was brought to me because it had been attacked. It seemed to have only superficial wounds. Went to foster to
06/12/17	2:00 PM	Lebanon	Street Department	1	Surrender	Adopter returned. Will be adopted by Susan Yearling as soon as we get heartworm test done.
06/17/17	2:00 PM	Lebanon	FB	1	Stray	Owner surrender. She held onto him until we were able to have him vaccinated. He is chipped. Chip #034.872.009
06/19/17	5:00 PM	Zionsville	Volunteer	1	Stray	phone # 765-481-0532 ADDRESS 220 S 600 W Lebanon
06/23/17	5:00 PM	Zionsville	Phone call	1	Return	Dog was hit on 32. Euthanized at Thorntown Vet.
06/24/17	10:00 AM	Zionsville	Phone call	1	Surrender	
06/28/17	3:00 PM	Lebanon	Police	1	Stray	
06/29/17	2:00 PM	Lebanon	Police	1	Stray	
07/01/17	1:00 PM	Lebanon	Police	1	Stray--hit	

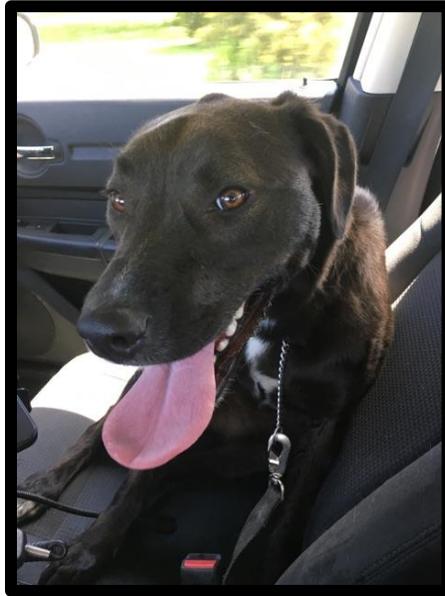
07/01/17	6:00 PM	Lebanon	Police	1	Stray	chip #981020001843263 Address 7723 Eagle Pt. Circle Phone
07/05/17	1:00 PM	Zionsville	FB	1	Stray	#954-881-6874
07/05/17	5:00 PM	Lebanon	Hotline	1	Surrender/Ret	urn
07/05/17	11:00 AM	Lebanon	Police	1	Stray	Melinna's dog chip #985112007002469 Address 3775 East 47 Phone # 765-894-7105, 317-285-4190, 765-894-6770
07/06/17	10:00 PM	Lebanon	Police	1	deceased	
		Putnam	Putnam			
		county	county Animal		Surrender/Ret	Sharon Kizer sold Jasper to someone. They gave him away
07/06/17	1:00 PM	Putnam	Control	1	urn	and then he was taken to Putnam County Animal Control.
		County	Control			Suzette found around July 1. She took dog to the vet and got
07/07/17	6:00 PM	Zionsville	Hotline	1	Stray	his shots.
07/15/17	3:00 PM	Lebanon	FB	2	Surrender	Cheryl Jones surrendered
						This pup was found between Advance and Jamestown. Finder
07/15/17	6:00 PM	Jamestown	FB	1	Surrender	gave him away and that person tried to sell him on FB.
07/20/17	3:00 PM	Lebanon	FB	1	Surrender	Free puppy on FB
07/21/17	5:00 PM	Advance	Volunteer	1	Surrender	
07/22/17	6:00 PM	Zionsville	FB	1	Surrender	Previous Owner Jason Wilkinson
07/22/17	3:00 PM	Lebanon	Police	1	Stray	Owner is Riley Bennett 317-902-0917 2605 Dover Ct. chip number 985112007906582 Owner is Luke Bintley 317-556-7218
07/23/17	3:00 PM	Jamestown	FB	1	Stray	
07/28/17	6:00 PM	Whitestown	Police	2	Surrender	Faith Epperson's other dogs
07/30/17	3:00 PM	Thorntown	Police	1	Stray	
08/01/17	3:00 PM	Lebanon	FB	1	Stray	Alissa Taylor 317-319-1870 101 Victoria Ct
08/02/17	9:00 AM	Lebanon	FB	1	Surrender	Adopted by Barb Carrell
08/02/17	5:00 PM	Lebanon	FB	1	Surrender	Did not
08/06/17	3:00 PM	Lebanon	FB	1	Receive	Scanned and finder kept. Dog was found by Hachett.
					Did not	
					recieve--just	Scanned dog and he was chipped. Owner Michelle Headlee.
08/06/17	4:00 PM	Lebanon	FB	1	scanned	317-366-1295. Chip #982000402493968
					Did not	
					receive--just	Stormy Lafave--2680 S. Bud Rd. 765-676-5569. Chip
08/12/17	4:00 PM	Lebanon	FB	1	scanned	#4A24347C33
08/17/17	1:00 PM	Lebanon	FB	1	surrender	

08/17/17	4:00 PM	Lebanon	Police	1	Did not receive--just scanned	Owner Derrick Lee on East Elm Stray but has microchip # 941000017776284. Microchip was hit 3 months ago, but did not find Owner.
08/19/17	7:00 AM	Jamestown	FB	1	Stray	Katrina Walker Lehman--765-481-0980. 424 W. Main St. Apt. I scanned the dog and she did not have a chip. She was held at a finder's home until she got into a fight with another dog on 8/20. She was taken to the vet on Saturday and cleaned
08/20/17	3:00 PM	Lebanon	FB	1	Stray	
08/19/17	3:00 PM	Lebanon	FB	1	Stray	

Photographic Support



I was able to track down the owner of this at large dog down and return him. However, I was advised by the complainant that this dog frequently is at large.



I was able to track down the owner of this at large dog down and return him.



A driver witnessed a baby bird fall into a ~8 foot man hole. I was able to retrieve the bird and release him into the treeline.



The custodian of this dog was threatening to "throw her out" because she had bowel movements. I was able to obtain surrendership and place her in the care of the Humane Society for Boone County.



The owner of this puppy changed his mind about wanting dogs and wanted to get rid of them. I was able to obtain surrendership and place him in the care of the Humane Society for Boone County.



The puppy's mother was also unwanted. I was able to obtain surrendership and place her in the care of the Humane Society for Boone County.



Dog bites and attacks are becoming increasingly more frequent and there are very few laws/ordinances to correctly assign liability.



This dog was reported to me multiple times for being tethered and without food and water.



It is not uncommon to respond to a call and observe that the pet does not have adequate food, water, or shelter.



I was contacted about this horse and its questionable status of wellbeing. The horse was over 30 years old, contributing to the thinness, but ultimately I was able to convince the owner to have the animal euthanized as it was very obvious the animal was suffering.



The horse owner was not very well educated about the care and wellbeing of elderly horses.



The horse owner failed to maintain the horse's hooves causing extreme pain; the horse did not frequently stand due to the pain.



This was the skeleton of a large dog reported by the property owner of a farm access lane.



This was the skeleton of a large dog reported by the property owner of a large lot of land.



This was the remains of a small animal, possibly a cat, reported by county highway.

Publicity and Social Media

Pet tortoise shot and killed in Zionsville

BY: Matt McKinney
POSTED: 8:27 AM, Sep 5, 2017
UPDATED: 1 min ago



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SHOW CAPTION

ZIONSVILLE, Ind. -- A pet tortoise named Merlin was shot and killed in rural Zionsville, Indiana last week, leading to outrage from hundreds of people.

According to the Facebook page, Justice for Merlin, the tortoise lived in a fenced-in yard for 12 years before it escaped sometime Thursday afternoon.

The tortoise apparently made it to a sheep farmer's house, who shot it on his property, according to the page.

WISHTV.COM 8 WISH-TV

NEWS WEATHER SPORTS INDY STYLE REPORT IT COMMUNITY MORE

Boone County deputies investigate shooting death of tortoise

Staff Reports
Published: September 4, 2017, 10:57 pm



(WLF1 Photo)

...ties are investigating the

Boone County family's pet tortoise fatally shot after escape

Fox59 Published 8:37 a.m. ET Sept. 5, 2017



(Photo: Tasha Chapel via Fox59)

ZIONSVILLE, Ind. -- Police are investigating after a family's pet tortoise was shot and killed last week.

According to the Boone County Sheriff's Office, deputies responded to a call in rural Zionsville on Friday, Sept. 1, 2017, where they found the tortoise had been shot, Fox59 reported.

According to the owner, Tasha Chapel, the 65-lb. African sulcata tortoise, Merlin, had gotten loose in the area near Horseshoe Drive and the Rockbridge subdivision on the afternoon of Thursday, Aug. 31.

CONNECT TWEET LINKEDIN COMMENT EMAIL MORE

One Question Site Survey

Which of the following adult vitamin have you heard of?

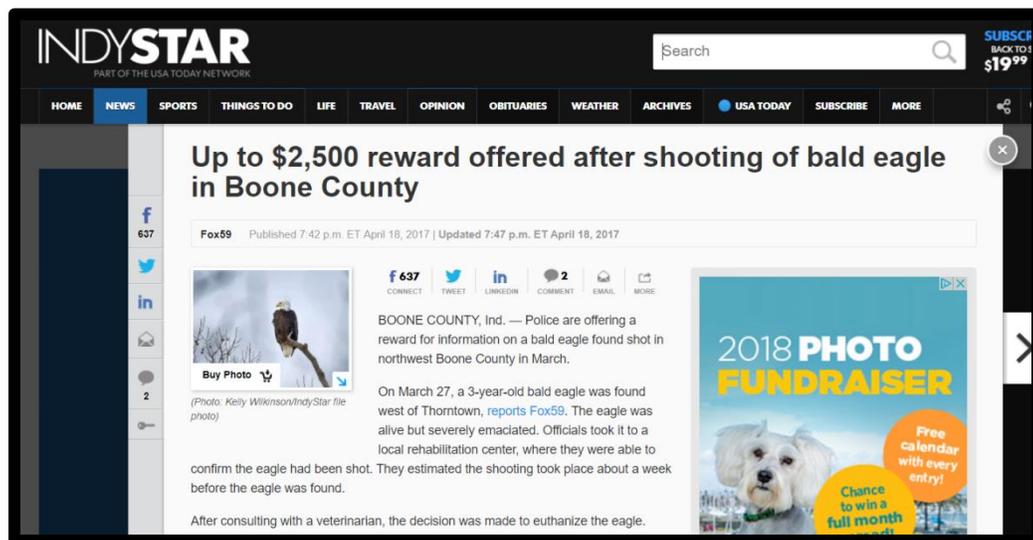
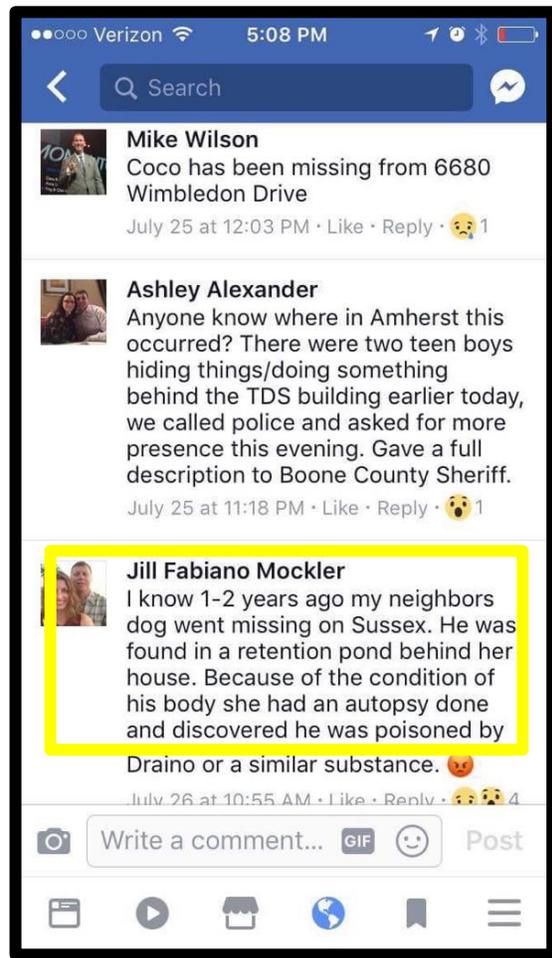
- Centrum
- Nature's Bounty
- One-A-Day
- Nature Made
- Vitafusion
- None of the above

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WISHTV.COM 8
NEWS WEATHER SPORTS INDY STYLE REPORT IT COMMUNITY MORE
Dog found dead in tote near Boone County road
By Vi Nguyen
Published: January 25, 2017, 11:37 pm | Updated: January 26, 2017, 4:38 am
Dead Dog Found
DEAD DOG FOUND
BOONE COUNTY, Ind. (WISH) — A disturbing discovery was made in after someone said they found a dead dog stuffed in a tote on the si

FOX 59 NEWS MORNING COMMUNITY CONTESTS TRAFFIC ON-AIR SPORTS WEATHER 77
LARGE-HEARTED HOSPITALITY, ALWAYS LIVELY.
THE ROXY HOTEL TRINACA LOVE YOUR ROOM AT 20% OFF
Police: Someone shot, dumped dog on Lebanon roadside in duct-taped tote
POSTED 9:14 AM, JANUARY 25, 2017, BY FOX59 WEB
FACEBOOK 458 TWITTER REDDIT EMAIL G+ GOOGLE P
LEBANON, Ind. - Police in Boone County are investigating after a woman discovered a dead dog inside a tote she found alongside a road in Lebanon.
On Tuesday afternoon, the Boone County Sheriff's Office Communications Center
File photo

CURRENT IN ZIONSVILLE
You're ready to take care of a family. We're ready to take care of you.
COMMUNITY
No charges expected after dog found dead in tote in Boone County
BY CURRENT IN ZIONSVILLE - FEBRUARY 1, 2017
By Chris Bavender
The Boone County Sheriff's Office is attempting to locate the owner of a dog found dead Jan. 24 inside of a small tote with its lid taped shut on the side of Mount Zion Road in Lebanon. The dog appeared to have been hit by a vehicle and then shot once in the head before being placed in the tote.



13 WTHR

IN BED WITH NEW YORK SINCE 2000 THE ROXY HOTEL TAKE 20% OFF

Boone County sheriff says animals were never neglected



Neighbors became concerned when they saw the pets inside, but no people.

EMILY LONGNECKER
PUBLISHED: 02/11/16 10:40 PM EST. UPDATED: 04/14/16 06:50 PM EDT.

TERHUNE, Ind.
The animals inside a house in Terhune were removed Friday morning less than 12 hours after a report from WTHR raised questions about the animal's welfare.

13 WTHR

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Dog abandoned at Lebanon truck stop making good recovery



MARY MILZ
PUBLISHED: 12/01/16 12:48 PM EST. UPDATED: 12/04/16 09:26 AM EST.

WHITESTOWN - He was abandoned, abused and left for dead in Boone County back in October. But Jay has made a remarkable turnaround in a relatively short period of time. Jay is a one-and-a-half-year-old pit bull mix who's been getting his feet wet and learning to walk again.

RTV6

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77

Humane society begs Boone County to step up funding on animal care and control

BY: Anna Kelly, Lydia Williams

POSTED: 5:34 PM, Jun 7, 2016

UPDATED: 6:06 PM, Jun 7, 2016

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BOONE COUNTY, Ind. – For most cities, if you need help catching a stray dog or taking care of a litter of abandoned kittens, you call animal care and control. But what do you do when there is no animal care and control?

In Boone County, humane society volunteers are asking for a major change. There is no official animal care and control officer or department. There's also no shelter for keeping stray animals.

Every other county that surrounds Marion County has one.

Michelle Atkinson, mother of three and volunteer, is the one who does it all. She volunteers for the county humane society, and typically is fostering at least a couple animals.

Every time someone needs help taking care of a stray, they call her – even if it's in the middle of the night.

If an animal is hurt, she has to call an emergency vet and foot the bill. That's the job an animal-care-and-control officer would normally pick up.

Now, the nonprofit is sending an open letter to Boone County posted on Facebook, asking for help. It's saying even if the county can't offer an officer or a shelter, it could at least help fund veterinarian bills for injured strays.

Letters of Support

Below are the names of persons who are in support of a full time Animal Control Officer in Boone County. These persons expressed their support in letters; those letters can be provided upon request.

Source	Name
Boone County law enforcement officer	Batic, Mark
Boone County law enforcement officer	Boutwell, Dan
Boone County law enforcement officer	Pickett, Jake
Boone County public safety employee	Woodrum, Zac
Humane Society for Boone County Board Member	Austin, Susan
Humane Society for Boone County Board Member	Brubaker, Christy
Humane Society for Boone County Board Member	Davis, Guy
Humane Society for Boone County Board Member	Hancock, Mike
Humane Society for Boone County Board Member	Healey, Patty
Humane Society for Boone County Board Member	Melichar, LeAnn
Resident	Amster, Cynthia
Resident	Applegate, Constance
Resident	Atkinson, Michelle
Resident	Bales, Jamie
Resident	Brubaker, Mike
Resident	Brutus, Susan
Resident	Bruveris, Paula
Resident	Burnworth, Sue
Resident	Carlton, April
Resident	Carson, Barb
Resident	Carson, Bill
Resident	Carter, Lora
Resident	Cates, Cherish
Resident	Cates, Randy
Resident	Chumin, Abby
Resident	Clark, Cindy
Resident	Clemens, Scott
Resident	Collver, Crystal
Resident	Confer, Luisa
Resident	Dant, Brenda
Resident	Davidson, Brandi
Resident	Enos, Sheryl
Resident	Esra, Candee
Resident	Farid, Khadiga
Resident	Farley, Lindsay
Resident	Farley, Steven
Resident	Floyd, Twyla
Resident	Frey, Laura
Resident	Garber, John
Resident	Garber, Mary Ann
Resident	Gates, Cheryl
Resident	Gates, Kathryn
Resident	Gayheart, Kathy
Resident	Gullette, Nicolette

Boone County Sheriff's Office/Animal Control Division

Resident	Haines, Julia
Resident	Hallam, Seonad
Resident	Hess, Brianna
Resident	Hine, Leslie
Resident	Hogan, Penny
Resident	Holmes, Cathy
Resident	Hoover, Carol
Resident	Hopkins, Sheila
Resident	Houghton, Celeste
Resident	Houk, Susan
Resident	Howard, Von
Resident	Jensen, Lori
Resident	Jimenez, Zullymar
Resident	Johnson, Amy
Resident	Judd, Lorna
Resident	Kern, Linda
Resident	Lee, Toni
Resident	Lemoine, Cindy
Resident	Lothian, Erik
Resident	Lothian, Nicole
Resident	Maners, Bette
Resident	Marcum, Ellis
Resident	Marshall, Melanie
Resident	Martin, Hope
Resident	Maxey, Ali
Resident	McCurdy, Lora
Resident	McIntire, Shelby
Resident	Michalke, Heather
Resident	Montgomery, Marcia
Resident	Morrison, Danielle
Resident	Mosgrove, Michelle
Resident	Nugent, Judy
Resident	O'brien, Trudie
Resident	O'Hara, Jackie
Resident	Oberg, Anne
Resident	Oberg, Denis
Resident	Patterson-Stevens, Amber
Resident	Pfister, Victor
Resident	Prather, DeeDee
Resident	Rezek, Jill
Resident	Richard, Dewitt
Resident	Richards Thompson, Toni
Resident	Ridge, Jill
Resident	Ridge, Nancy
Resident	Riggins, Shari
Resident	Robinson, Aaron
Resident	Robinson, Diana
Resident	Sanders, Bill
Resident	Sanders, Judy
Resident	Sartin, Jen

Boone County Sheriff's Office/Animal Control Division

Resident	Sennett, Brianna
Resident	Shafer, Courtney
Resident	Shea, Lissa
Resident	Shea, Mike
Resident	Snodgrass, Gina
Resident	Spall, Jennifer
Resident	Stevens, Chuck
Resident	Stump, Lori
Resident	Sullivan, Neil
Resident	Taylor, Dixie
Resident	Theademan, Jessa
Resident	Thies, Debbie
Resident	Thies, Rich
Resident	Vickrey, Michelle
Resident	Vignes, Dusty
Resident	Wallace, Bill
Resident	Wallace, Sue
Resident	Warren Mixson, Angela
Resident	Wessler, Robert
Resident	Wessler, Victoria
Resident	West, Carolyn
Resident	Westernkirchner, Robby
Resident	Wilkes, Sarah
Resident	Williams, Anne
Resident	Williams, Laura
Resident	Wright, Kim