



# THE BUZZ AT BRAWA

## Summer 2025



### SUMMER CAMP

This year's BRAWA Summer Camp was a fun, exciting, and educational experience! Campers had the unique opportunity to meet K-9 Officer Chaos, spend quality time with our shelter animals, get creative with awesome crafts, and learn all about the important work we do at BRAWA.

Our goal is to inspire a more humane world by teaching kids the value of compassion and care for animals. We hope each camper left with new knowledge, warm memories, and a heart ready to share kindness with others.

Thank you to everyone who helped make this camp so special!



### Hours

Monday: 10am - 5pm  
Tuesday: 10am - 5pm  
Wednesday: closed  
Thursday: 10am - 5pm  
Friday: 10am - 5pm  
Saturday: 10am - 4pm  
Sunday: closed



### 2025 Board Members

Rhonda Trautman  
Robin Crane  
Margie Patton  
Kathy Bunch  
Molly Taylor  
Randy Gardner  
Micah Page  
Bill Bucher  
Pam Yakel  
Lisa Logsdon  
Tyler Duke  
Chappy Rice  
Babette Portillo

General Manager : Connie Greer  
brawa.cgreer@gmail.com

# HOW TO HELP



At BRAWA, we rely on the kindness and commitment of our community to keep tails wagging and hearts full. Here are a few meaningful ways you can get involved:

**Volunteer Your Time:** Whether you're walking dogs, cuddling cats, helping with laundry, or assisting at events, every volunteer hour supports the well-being of our animals. No experience needed — just a big heart and a willingness to help!

**Become a Foster Hero:** Fostering saves lives! By opening your home temporarily to a pet in need — whether it's a litter of kittens or a recovering dog — you give them a chance to thrive in a quiet, loving environment until they find a forever home. We provide the supplies; you provide the love.

**Donate Supplies or Funds:** Every dollar makes a difference. Monetary donations help cover medical care, food, and facility upkeep. Prefer to donate items? We always need dry/wet pet food, blankets, towels, cleaning products, toys, and more. Check our website for a full wish list.

**Be a Voice for the Voiceless:** You can be a powerful advocate simply by sharing our mission! Follow us on social media, promote adoptable pets, or host a fundraiser in your workplace, school, or church. **Awareness saves lives.**

Together, we're building a more compassionate community — one paw at a time. Learn more or sign up to help at [www.brawashelter.org](http://www.brawashelter.org) or call (270) 651-7297. Thank you for making a difference!



## **Pet Safety Tips for a Paws-itively Safe Summer!**

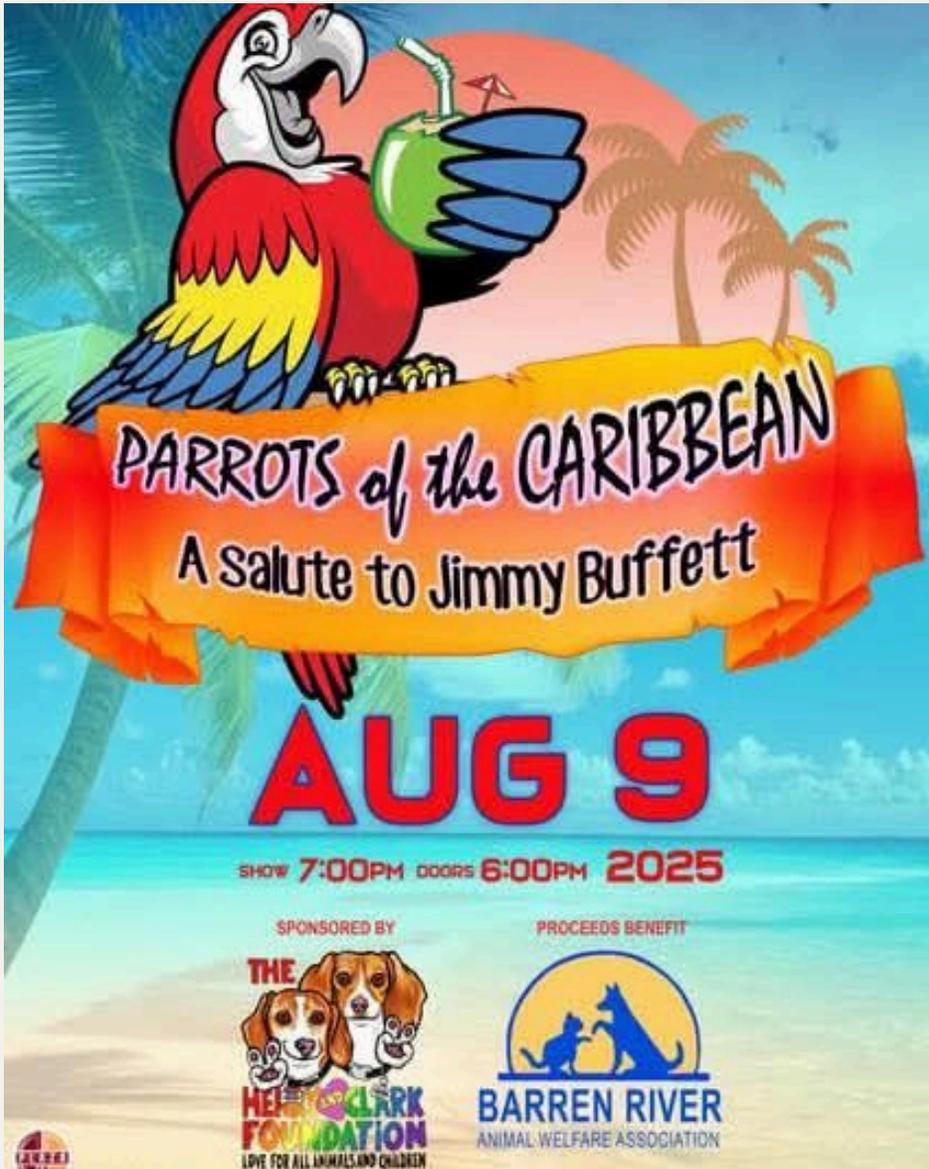
Keep your furry friends cool, calm, and protected this summer. Summer is a fun and active season, but it also brings risks for pets. As temperatures rise and holiday celebrations ramp up, it's important to keep your four-legged companions safe and comfortable. Here are a few summer safety tips:

**Beat the Heat:** Never leave pets in a parked car — even for a few minutes. On an 85°F day, the temperature inside a car can soar to 120°F in just 10 minutes! Keep walks shorter during the hottest part of the day and always provide freshwater and shade.

**Fireworks & Loud Noises:** Celebrating with fireworks can be fun for humans, but fireworks can be terrifying for pets. Keep them indoors during celebrations, preferably in a quiet, secure room. Make sure they're microchipped and wearing updated ID tags — just in case they slip out.

**Prevent Pests:** Warm weather means fleas, ticks, and mosquitoes. Make sure your pets are protected with vet-recommended flea/tick preventatives and heartworm medication.

**Water Watch:** If your dog loves swimming, great! But never leave pets unattended near pools, lakes, or rivers. Not all dogs are strong swimmers, and water hazards can happen fast. Keeping your pets healthy and happy in the summer heat is just another way to show how much you care. And if you're looking for a fun way to help, consider donating cooling mats, pet-safe sunscreen, or kiddie pools to BRAWA!



**BRAWA's Summer Needs List: How You Can Help Us Keep Tails Wagging!**

We rely heavily on the generosity of our community to ensure that every animal receives the care, comfort, and love they deserve. We are currently in need of the following items to keep our shelter running smoothly and to provide our furry friends with the best environment possible. Donating any of these items will help us continue our mission of finding them loving forever homes. You can drop off donations at our shelter during regular business hours or if you're unable to visit, order online and have them shipped directly to BRAWA!

**Cleaning Supplies:** Keeping our shelter spotless is a top priority. We are always in need of the following cleaning supplies:

- Bleach (unscented)
- Laundry detergent (unscented)
- Disinfectant sprays
- Paper towels
- Scrub brushes
- Trash bags (13-gallon and larger)

**Comfort Items for Our Pets:** Whether it's providing warmth, enrichment, or just a cozy spot to relax, these items help our animals feel more at home:

- Blankets (preferably soft and washable)
- Towels (bath towels or beach towels work great!)
- Kongs, chew toys, and other enrichment toys
- Cat and dog treats (for training and rewards)

**Food and Supplies:** Our furry residents go through a lot of food, and we appreciate donations to help feed them. This also supports our foster families by providing food during fostering.

- Canned cat food (wet food for both kittens and adults)
- Canned dog food (puppy, adult, and senior formulas)
- Dry dog food (all sizes, especially small breed)
- Dry cat food (adult and kittens)



**MISSION STATEMENT:**

**The Barren River Animal Welfare Association is a partnership of caring community members providing a safe haven for homeless companion animals. We provide animals in need with humane treatment and good homes while working to reduce the population of unwanted pets through spay/neuter programs, education, and outreach.**



The 15th Annual Shake Your Paw Ball was a huge success!

Thanks to our incredible sponsors, supporters, and attendees, this year's event was one for the books! Guests enjoyed a delicious meal provided by Diane White, and we're so grateful to the Cave Area Conference Center for being such a fantastic venue partner.

Our silent auction – the largest we've ever had – featured items valued at over \$14,000! And Bazuka Jo 2.0 kept the energy high and the dance floor full..

We're thrilled to announce that, together, we raised nearly \$35,000 to support the animals at BRAWA!

Thank you to everyone who made this night so special. We couldn't do it without you!



## Derby Dog Festival 2025: A Community Celebration of Canine Companionship

The Barren River Animal Welfare Association (BRAWA) hosted its second annual Derby Dog Festival on Saturday, April 26, drawing dog lovers from across the region to Highland Field at Barren River Lake State Resort Park for a day full of furry fun and community spirit.

Set against the scenic backdrop of one of Kentucky's most beloved parks, the festival celebrated dogs of all shapes and sizes with a lineup of tail-wagging activities, contests, vendors, and pet-friendly entertainment. From the ever-popular lure course to agility demonstrations, peanut butter treat stations, and discounted micro-chipping, the event offered something for every two-legged and four-legged guest.

"The Derby Dog Festival is not just about celebrating our love for animals—it's about coming together as a community to support the mission of animal welfare and responsible pet ownership" Liz McClellen – Event Organizer. Businesses and organizations supported the event through sponsorships and on-site booths, offering pet products to food and family activities. The highlight of the afternoon was the Cave City Police K-9 unit demonstration, where attendees witnessed the officer call the Police K-9 to track the scent of drugs and take down a non-compliant "criminal."

Funds raised directly benefit BRAWA's ongoing efforts in animal rescue, sheltering, and adoption services. BRAWA is already looking forward to next year's festival. "Every smile and every wagging tail reminds us why we do what we do," said Liz. "This is more than a dog event—it's a celebration of compassion."

