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Wayside Waifs Celebrates 80th Anniversary

KANSAS CITY, Missouri – **This year marks Wayside Waifs’ 80th anniversary year of serving the homeless animals.** A significant milestone indeed.

Wayside was started in 1944 by Fenby Webster. She saw a need to help homeless animals and, with 28 other animal lovers by her side, she opened the shelter in South Kansas City – on the same piece of land it’s on today. The campus has since grown to 50 acres and the shelter, which was originally a converted farmhouse, now serves pets and people in a variety of ways. Along with the Pet Adoption Center, the campus includes a veterinary clinic and surgery suite for shelter animals, a 5 acre off-leash Bark Park, Pet Memorial Services, an Education & Training Center, and a state-of-the-art, second of its kind in the nation Canine Behavior Center that helps dogs who are shy and fearful or have high energy. Wayside also has a robust Volunteer program and a Humane Education Program that reaches more than 12,000 youth each year. In addition, Wayside began helping community pet owners last year with their outreach programming. This growth allows Wayside and its supporters to care for more than 25,000 pets and people every year.

Wayside recognizes those who have come before them and made an impact on the lives of animals in the shelter’s care. Through the years, supporters have helped the animal shelter save thousands of lives – volunteers who give their time, donors who give their treasure, and staff who give their talent. Many people fall into more than one category. Every one of these individuals have helped animals from pain, suffering, and homelessness. Wayside thank them all!

Wayside will be celebrating this anniversary all year long with fun festivities, special recognitions, and exciting signage. An 80th logo has also been created – pictured above.

About Wayside Waifs

As Kansas City’s largest and most comprehensive no kill pet adoption campus, Wayside Waifs prepares pets and people for the bond of their lives. More than 25,000 pets and people are served annually through pet adoptions, youth education, canine training programs, and community outreach. Wayside is a private nonprofit 501(c)(3) charity with regional and national reach. It receives no government funding and is supported entirely by private donations and grants. To see all of the animals available for adoptions or to donate, please visit WaysideWaifs.org.

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