Scratching Pesting News and views from wayside waifs Spring Edition 2024



Wayside Waifs
Through the Decades
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CELEBRATING 80 YEARS of saving lives!

Letter from the President Celebrating 80 Years



Eighty years ago, a concerned citizen named Fenby Webster realized the homeless pets of our community needed an advocate. She became that advocate and Wayside Waifs was born.

Fenby's passion and persistence for helping homeless pets still lives on today through Wayside Waifs' many lifesaving programs – rescues, adoptions, and humane education, just to name a few.

It hasn't always been easy. Over the years there have been ups and downs, with Wayside facing the very real possibility of

closing our doors in the mid-90's. Drawing on the same passion and persistence of our founder, a group of community advocates and donors came together to save Wayside. Through strong leadership and donor support, Wayside made it through and is now as strong and stable as ever.

In this historic 80th anniversary year, we will begin working through our new strategic plan, Pawsibilities, that will guide Wayside in helping even more pets and people. Over the 42-month plan, Wayside aims to serve 97,500 shelter pets, community pets, and people. Through 5 strategic pillars of focus, the plan's impact will be felt locally but also nationwide. Pawsibilities calls for continued growth of programs and infrastructure and will only be successful with donor support.

Reflecting on Wayside's past, it's clear that many things have changed throughout the years, while some important things have stayed the same.

There are still homeless pets, and we need more loving adopters. Volunteers are critical to Wayside's operations, and we need more to fill more roles than ever. Donors and their support are crucial to our past, present, and future. We couldn't do Wayside's life-saving work without these individuals – and without you!

Sincerely,

Kathryn Mahoney President P.S. I hope to see you at this year's Fur Ball Gala on Saturday, May 11. This year's theme is **Bark & Roll!** Visit FurBallKC.org for more info.



Key Contacts

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President

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Mission

PREPARING PETS AND PEOPLE FOR THE BOND OF THEIR LIVES.

We accomplish our mission by protecting and caring for the animals under our watch; by reaching out to the community for love and support; and by teaching others about the profound joy that pets bring to our lives.

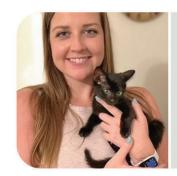


Happy Tails Forever Loved



Hank

We have nothing but great things to say about Wayside! Hank is doing great and adjusting well! - Tess



Binx

She has been doing excellent and is so cuddly and smart. We love her so much already! - Brooklyn



Honey Mustard

We are loving life with this silly boy. Thank you for finding us a perfect match! – Mayumi



Grace

She is thriving in her new environment. She is amazing and so loved.

- Casie



Finn

He's the best, even when he makes a mess. It's OK, we still love him, ha! - Alison



Lilly

She's everything we expected and more. She's a smart girl and so sweet.

- Ashley



Contact us at 816-761-8151 or visit us at WaysideWaifs.org for hours of operation, services, and more.

For information on volunteering, call 816-986-4431.

Wayside Waifs is located at 3901 Martha Truman Road, Kansas City, Missouri 64137



















Celebrating 80 Years With You Wayside Waifs' history

19403



In 1944 Fenby Webster, with 28 animal lovers, founded Wayside Waifs in South Kansas City.



Sewzie, the first Waif to enter our doors, and her adopting family, Mr. and Mrs. Baker.



In 1946 Top of The World Pet Cemetery was started on our campus. Today the cemetery has more than 14,000 beloved pets buried there.



Wayside established the first Humane Education program for kids in the region. Here a Brownie Troop visited the shelter in the 1940s.



Our rescue work began when the shelter opened in 1944. In addition to saving strays, rescue efforts included the 1951 Kansas City Flood and the 1957 Ruskin Heights Tornado.

19903



In 1999, a new 47,000 square foot facility was built.
It provided comprehensive medical and behavior care for all of
the homeless animals that came to Wayside.

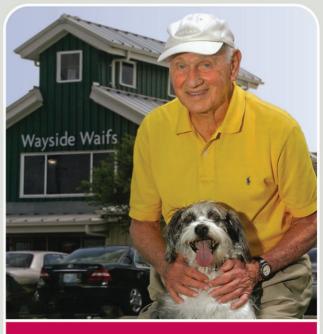


Humane Education programs experienced significant growth. On campus, more youth began visiting for a variety of educational programs. Locally, our Humane Educators and their Companion Animals visited schools to teach No More Bullying!

Wayside's rescue efforts continued when we served as an evacuation center for the KCMO shelter while rising waters threatened to flood their shelter in 1991 and again in 1993.



on The Country Club Plaza. In addition, the Fur Ball Gala our second signature fundraiser, began in 1998.



During construction, Harold and Marilyn Melcher adopted Sophie, affectionately named "the dog who saved the shelter." Sophie inspired donors to support Wayside's future and initiated a new path.

20003



The Vet Preceptorship Program began training college veterinary students in shelter medicine, welcoming students from across the country.



In 2021, The Canine Behavior Center, the second of its kind in the nation, opened. Built exclusively for shy, fearful, and high-arousal shelter dogs to help meet their individual needs and find loving homes.



Wayside formed the area's first Animal Rescue & Response Team and added a 28 foot Rescue Transport Trailer. Today, the Rescue Team rescues animals locally and across the country.

Wayside embraced holding adoption events to help the animals find forever homes. We began holding Adopt-A-Thon's, Clear The Shelters, Mega-Match, and even Round The Clock, a 24-hour adoption event!



In 2023 community programing expanded to include a larger Pet Food Pantry and free and low-cost vaccine clinics and the spay/neuter event.

Wayside's Changemakers Then and Now

Compassionate, dedicated donors have been critical to Wayside's survival. We'd like to introduce you to six special changemakers in our 80-year history.

Fenby Webster, along with 28 animal loving members by her side, founded Wayside in 1944 and set new standards in animal welfare. They saw a need to help homeless pets in south Kansas City and persevered through tough times to stay

the course. 80 years later, Wayside is still on the exact same piece of land. Fenby's spirit and passion for saving animals lives on every day. Hundreds of thousands of animals have been saved since Wayside was founded.



Fenby Webster

Harold & Marilyn Melcher helped the shelter at a pivotal time in Wayside's history, the late 90's. They, along with other influential animal-loving Kansas Citians, raised funds to build a new state-of-the-art facility. They also funded several



Marilyn & Harold Melcher

initiatives and programs of Wayside including the Pet Adoptions Center, expanding Humane Education programming, and the annual Fur Ball Gala (Wayside's largest fundraising event). Marilyn and the Melcher family continue Harold's vision by supporting Wayside today.

Jack Wylie was a visionary business leader and generous philanthropist — with a special passion for helping homeless pets. In the 1990s Jack and his wife, Glenna, began supporting Wayside and in 2014 Jack made a



Jack Wylie

significant gift to name The Wylie Center after Glenna. Jack did not want his philanthropy to end when he died and instructed his Foundation Trustees to continue supporting his favorite charities. Their ongoing efforts continue his legacy through an annual gift-matching campaign that inspires others donate.



Robert & Carole Beeson

Robert & Carole Beeson were long-time supporters of Wayside. In addition, they both deeply valued education. They left a generous legacy gift to help build the Education and Training Center in 2019. This gift allows for a

space children and the public can continue to be educated on proper pet care, pet responsibility, and learn the similarities between pets and people. The space also allows an area for animal welfare groups to collaborate, dog training classes to be taught, and more.

These six visionary donors have been instrumental in Wayside's journey, but it's you who continues the life-saving mission of Wayside today. Thank YOU for being part of the Wayside story as a donor, adopter, volunteer, and animal advocate.

Thank you for being the animals' voice and giving them the second chance they deserve!



Honor/Memorial giving

IN HONOR OF: Andy, Ellen Reesman; Andy and Lauren Goldberg, The Richard and Annette Bloch Family Foundation Fund; Apache, Therese and Michael Iverson; Aram Galoyants, An Anonymous Donor; Ashley Green, Amanda Moreno; Barbara Lukert, Todd Wegener; Barkley, Dr. and Mrs. Andrew Godwin, The Godwin Family Charitable Giving Fund; Barry Veal, Benjamin Buck; Bobby and Jeanne Heidlage, Rebecca M. Heidlage, Ed.D.; Boyd Metz, Jr., Jeffrey Herrman; Brenda Hulse, Rebecca Altmyer; Callie, Mary O'Connell; Callisto, Ellen Reesman; Casey Hartsock, Rob Bruner; CBIZ Kansas City Young Professionals, Tessa Pereles; Cindy Heim, Daniel Bilko; Coleen Postilio and Ed Jones, Karla Kuchenmeister; Corky Russell, Don and Barb Russell; Darrel and Carole Williams, Pat and Don Williams; Dave Oland, Linda Matson; David Harvey, Joseph Harvey: Dennis Albin, Jason Stenshol: Devin Miller, Pamela Miller and Michael Cummings: Dick and Kitty Heidlage, Rehecca M. Heidlage, Ed. D.: Dobby Jones, Russ and Susan Jones; Donald Schlotzhauer, Daisy Cartwright; Dr. Kelly and Staff, Jonathan Erlich; Ellys Barkley, Bishop-McCann; Glen Williams, Pat and Don Williams; Gordon March, George and Carol Kather; Gregory and Gloria London, Padma Damidi; Gwyn Collier, Linda Fortunato; Hamlet, Keith and Anne Wiedenkeller; Hank, Ellen Reesman; Isabella Madelen, Paul and Kathy Gorup; Jake, Jamie, Matt Althouse, Steven and Kathy Remmers; Jim Fairbanks, Linda Deupree; Jim Hamilton, Donna Skates; Joe Suhor, Becky and Dave Seitter; John Engelhardt, Richard Schoenfeldt; John Forkner, Robyn Miller Forkner; Jonathan Pasowicz, Polly Moore; Julie Williams, Anne Schwab; Kaci, Amanda Moreno; Kelley McKinley, Elaine McKinley and Kit Durgin; Ken and Wilma Nelson, Sara and Jack Evans; Kim Hayes, Darla Faler; Lark Ross-Clark, Vanessa Ross; Laura Keyworth, Mark and Cheryl Mozer; Lily Fry, Bob and Mary Fry; Linus Robison, Heidi Robison; Lisa Gellings, Kathy Gellings, Todd Flory; Lucifer and Lilith, Ellen Reesman; Luigi, Debra Jones; Maris Marie Keech, John Keech; Mary Ballard, John Shacklett and Greg Crawford; Mary Lu Liolios, Tom Liolios; Mary Ventura, Randy Sedlacek; Maureen Williams, Rebecca M. Heidlage, Ed.D.; Maureena McDonald, Sandra Riley; Mike and Margaret Heringer, Rebecca M. Heidlage, Ed.D.; Minnie, Daisy, Paco, Wiley, Cisco, Mike Haefele; Molly, Michelle Brasel; Mozart and Bear, Robert Nash; Odie Putnam, Shirley Brooks; Pat Marrin, Rebecca M. Heidlage, Ed.D; Patricia Gurley, Joni Evans; Peter and Patricia Buhite, Debbie and John Ivanuska; Phyllis Little, Pamela Read; Richard McTague, Patty McComas; Rita and Jack Clifford, Judy Clifford; Sandy Johnson, Norman Guettermann; Santas Secret Lights, Scott Bultemeier; Scott Cantrell, Gregory Cantrell; Shari Bennett, Jeffrey Frantzen; Sir John Lawless, Mark Box; Stephanie Schlatter, Lori Stohs; Susan Jones, Russ and Susan Jones; Susan Mullen, Dave Hartog; Tamera Evans, Tamera's Team; Tango and Cash, Cecilia Bruening-Walstrom and Gary Walstrom; Tazzie Reap, Jeff and Sondra Reap; Ted Thornhill, Thomas and Nancy Thornhill; Vickie Heidlage and Tim Williams, Rebecca M. Heidlage, Ed.D.: Zeke, Thomas and Kathleen Quaife

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IN HONOR OF THE BIRTHDAY OF: Aaron Kroll, Aaron and Jessica Kroll Donor Advised Fund - JCF; Jana Lang, Judith Budde; Jean Dawson, Judith Budde

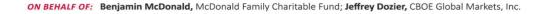
IN MEMORY OF: Abigail Bruce, Ronald and Barbara Bruce; Ace, Julie Blaine; Adam Bartimus, The Danajames Kids Foundation; Agnes Sherman, Cathy Sherman and Mike Ludwikosky; AJ (the best dog ever), Keith and Jennifer Gendreau; Al Blixt, Brian and Vicki Taylor; Ann Johnson, Richard Ralls and Anne Henry Ralls; Bailey, Robert and Dianne Dieterle; Bailey and Grandpa Robert, Sarah Dieterle; Bear, Fidos & Felines, LLC; Bella, Keith and Anne Wiedenkeller; Berkeley Gorup, Paul and Kathy Gorup; Betty Wagner, Cynthia Curry; Biddy, Vickie Sisco; Bill Rice, Susan Rice, Lenna and James Hall, Bonnie and Terry White, Gary and Lynne Ludlam and Family; BK Klapmeyer, Brad and Emily Klapmeyer; Blitzen, Paula McNeary; Bob, Jeannie Davis; Bob Baker, An Anonymous Fund at GKCCF; Bob Freund, Debra Foster; Bob Martin, Liz Wakeman; Bob Musil, David Hustead, Dale Stryker and Mike Schomburg; Bogart and Gabe, David and Kathy Safir; Bojangles Wolff, Teddi Wolff; Bonita, Ellie & Millie, Dere Newman; Brady George Wellington III, William and Christina Hansen; Brenda Turner, Debra Jones; Brian Hicks, Barbara Hicks; Brooke, Madeline Rislow; Bruno Blanco Virgoni, John



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Wayside Waifs - Preparing pets & people for the bond of their lives.

Save the Date Saturday, May 11, 2024

Join us for Fur Ball – **Bark & Roll**. The event is Kansas City's biggest fundraiser for homeless animals. Don't miss out on one of the most talked about parties of the year! The event takes place at the Overland "Bark" Convention Center on **Saturday, May 11, 2024** at 5:30 pm.

This celebration is one of a kind with attendees dressing to the event theme! Guests will enjoy silent and live auctions, a wonderful dinner, 18 open bars, and more. We're betting everyone has the time of their lives!

For the first time ever, **Carolyn Long**, KCTV5's Evening News Anchor, will be joining the festivities as the night's emcee! Plus, the Nigro Brothers will return to auction off amazing items in the live auction.



Rusty and Martha Smith, Fur Ball Honorary Chairs



To reserve your table for May 11, 2024 at 5:30 pm, contact Paige Cooper, Special Events Manager, at (816) 986-4409 or pcooper@waysidewaifs.org.

For more info, visit FurBallKC.org.

2023 Furry Facts What your support did last year









