

Scratching **POST**

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM WAYSIDE WAIFS

HOLIDAY EDITION 2023

*Harry on a hike
with his furry friends.*



Harry's Journey to a Forever Home

PAGE 4

Letter from the President *Wayside Never Gives Up*



Thousands of homeless animals came to Wayside Waifs this year. Some were strays, struggling to survive on the streets; many came from smaller shelters that did not have the resources to care for them; others were surrendered by their owners who could no longer give them what they need to thrive. But thanks to you, Wayside helps these animals and will never give up on any of them. Take a look at Harry's story on page 4 – he's just one of the homeless animals who needed help for a happy and healthy life. You allow us to provide the life-saving medical and behavior care that homeless animals deserve.

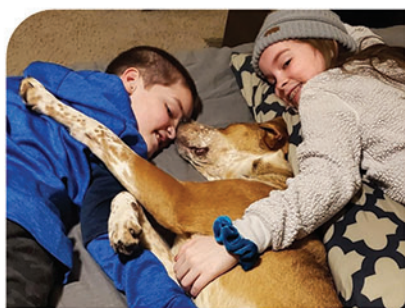
We're excited for 2024 and everything it has to bring. We're especially excited to celebrate Wayside's 80th Anniversary with you. We want you to hear about our history and see how you've supported the animals through the years. Will you share any experiences you've had with Wayside? Maybe you've adopted a beloved pet, donated to the shelter animals, or participated in an event. Please reach out to us – we'd love to hear from you! And don't forget to share any photos you have too!! Send them to info@WaysideWaifs.org. Thank you for never giving up on the homeless animals!

Sincerely,

Kathryn Mahoney
President

P.S. Happy Holidays! I hope you're able to spend quality time with those you love – both two and four legged!

Happy Tails Forever Loved



Scout

He's wonderful – he's a snuggle bug and our family loves him!!
– Michael

Hughie

He'll have a long and happy life here with me and my other 2 cats. He's a gem!
– Debbie



Share your adoption stories with us on Facebook! 



Key Contacts

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President

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VP of Animal Welfare & Operations

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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.



2023 Strutt With Your Mutt *A Celebration of Pets & People*



PICTURED ABOVE: Participants strutting the 5k.

Big tail wags to everyone who participated in the 33rd Annual Strutt With Your Mutt on Sunday, September 24. Whether you ran, Strutted, volunteered, or donated, your generosity raised funds to rescue and care for the homeless animals at Wayside Waifs.

This year, more than 1,000 people came to Strutt With Your Mutt. They were joined by 800 of their canine friends. Thanks to our sponsors, donors, participants, and volunteers - you raised more than \$200,000 for abandoned, abused, and homeless animals! Together, we are creating a more humane Kansas City for both pets and people.

We want to give a huge thank you to amazing fundraisers who do so much to help the Waifs! Special thanks to our top fundraising team, **Abby and Emma's Run With The Waifs**. Along with the event's highest individual fundraisers, **Colin Price and Emma Price** – they tied this year! We're very grateful to the anonymous donor who matched donations the day of Strutt. We'd also like to give a shout out to **Catalent** for having the largest team with 54 people!

We'd like to thank Bobby Sicht, Rob Sicht Ford, and David Smith, BioStar Renewables, for being co-chairs of this event!

A special kudos goes out to Team Rob Sicht Ford for helping put on the first ever raffle for Strutt!

Thank you to our top sponsors:

Melcher Investment Company, The Castetter Johnson Family Foundation, Rob Sicht Ford, Ameristar Cares, Hill's Science Diet, Dechra Veterinary Products, JE Dunn, On The Ball, Three Dog Bakery, Wells Fargo, Camp Bow Wow, The Looking Glass Photo Booths, Noah's Ark Animal Clinic, Westlake Ace Hardware, Lathrop GPM, Ruskin, 8111, Garmin, Landers' Visions, JNA Advertising, 99.7 The Point, The Kansas City Star, and KMBC Channel 9!



PICTURED ABOVE: Nikki Vivas, Event Emcee and 99.7 The Point DJ; Bobby Sicht and David Smart, Event Co-Chairs; Kathryn Mahoney, Wayside President; Donna Pitman and Len Jennings, Event Emcees and KMBC 9 Anchors.



PICTURED LEFT: These two had a great time raising funds for the homeless animals at Wayside.

We hope you'll join us for the 34th Annual Strutt With Your Mutt which is currently planned for September 29, 2024!

You Didn't Give Up On Harry *Here's His Journey*

Wayside sees homeless animals enter our shelter every day. Many are suffering – both medically and behaviorally. Thanks to your support, we're able to provide the life-saving care that each of these animals needs and deserves. Harry is just one of the animals you have saved.



Harry came to Wayside when he was only four months old. The American Pit Bull Terrier mix had experienced more trauma than any animal should in a lifetime. The shelter where he was living realized they couldn't provide the care he needed so they transferred him to Wayside. Sadly, he was scared of humans, extremely shy, and in need of medical care.

At Wayside, Harry underwent emergency surgery to remove a foreign body from his stomach. Thanks to the quick actions and expert care of our veterinarians and vet clinic staff, Harry made a quick and full recovery. While taking radiographs to assess his condition, the clinic staff discovered that his skin was embedded with more than 25 rounds of buckshot pellets. It's awful to think that a human being shot him with pellets at such a young age! Learning what Harry went through was devastating to everyone.

During Harry's time at Wayside, he wasn't just cared for medically. Due to his trauma, he also needed behavior attention and foster care.

Harry was completely shut down; he was absolutely terrified of everyone and everything. While we assume his behavior was due to his life experiences, it's difficult to say exactly what impacted him. He couldn't share a space with a human without fearing for his life. When anyone moved towards him, he'd shake, tremble, and try to escape his kennel by climbing up the walls while urinating and defecating. Because it was impossible to touch Harry, he couldn't be walked on a leash.

Harry went into a foster home so he could acclimate to the world. There he was able to be around other dogs, a cat, a human, live in a home, run in a backyard. All things he desperately needed. He was able to relax, learn, grow, and feel love for the very first time in his life.

In December 2020 – on Harry's 352nd day at Wayside – his foster mom, Brett, adopted him. While fostering him, she watched him begin to adapt to living in her home. She saw the desire he had to live a happy life. And she was determined to make his world even better.

“Harry is now a happy, healthy, almost four year old who loves playing ball with his mom, lounging in the sun, swimming at the river and rough-housing with his siblings,” said Brett Currie, Harry’s adoptive mom.

As Wayside's Canine Public Training and Behavior Manager, Brett knew she could continue to help Harry trust everything and everyone around him. That's exactly what she's doing. She – with help from her other pets – have taught him that the world is a good place to be. While he still has some reservations in life, Harry's learned that beds are comfortable and relaxing, backyards are fun to run around in, trails are a great place to explore, and streams offer amazing adventures. He's now happy and truly enjoying his life!

Harry's situation was extremely dire. And sadly, he's not the only dog with a story like this. **Other organizations would have given up on him, but not Wayside.** He may always be shy because of the trauma he experienced in his past, but Wayside has ensured he'll have a future full of happiness.

Because of your support, our staff, volunteers, and fosters worked tirelessly to show Harry that there was good in the world. Thanks to you, for the first time ever, Harry received medical and behavior care. But also he received love, was surrounded by patience, and felt comforted by humans who knew he deserved a second chance.

PICTURED LEFT: Harry with Brett, Wayside's Canine Public Training and Behavior Manager, when she adopted him in 2020.

PICTURED RIGHT: Harry enjoying the outdoors – something he never previously experienced.



Wayside Wish List *Your Holiday Shopping List*



With your support, the Wayside team serves more than 20,000 pets and people every year through pet adoptions, youth education, and community programming. **As the holiday season is upon us, consider collecting items from the Wayside Wish List to donate to the shelter animals as part of your holiday festivities as a family, at your workplace, or through your club/civic group.**

Wish List Items Needed:

- Canned Wet Cat & Dog Food
- Dog Toys
- Hot Dogs
- Cat Dancer Wand Toys
- Feliway Spray
- Paper Towels
- Cardboard Cat Scratchers
- Peanut Butter (without Xylitol)
- Spray Cheese
- Soft Training Treats
- Churu sticks
- Nyla Bones
- Cat & Kitten Toys

If you order from Amazon, the items will be directly shipped to Wayside – it's a no hassle and touch free way to shop! Otherwise, your generous donations can be dropped off at the shelter in the bin outside the main entrance every day of the week between 8:30am-4:30pm.

To view our entire Wish List, visit WaysideWaifs.org.

Honor/Memorial GIVING

IN HONOR OF: **Autum's Gotcha Day**, Shivers Ice House LLC; **Callie Jennings and Matt Fischer**, Wendy Jennings, Karry Salvino, Tom Jennings; **Daniel Dougherty**, Theresa Prue; **Debbie Brock**, Don and Ginger Priest; **Eddy Scanlon**, Abby Scanlon; **Eugene Bortnick**, Cathy and Mark Maslan; **Harper Nonnemaker**, The Kauffman Foundation Matching Gifts Program, Sara and Tim Racer; **James Reese**, Sharon Snow; **Janeen DeVries**, Maria and Alex Bay; **John Shiddell**, Kristina Noll; **Kayla Sims**, Theresa Prue; **Kelsey Anderson**, Theresa Prue; **Kim Russell and Steve Cubbage**, An Anonymous Donor, Stacy Brown; **Kimberly Russell**, Daniel Sonsthagen; **Marcia Solomon**, Theresa Prue; **Maureena McDonald**, Sandra Riley; **Michele Payne**, Theresa Prue; **Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Strauss**, Angela Hall; **Oscar Matthews**, Marlene Matthews; **Patti Kroll**, Aaron and Jessica Kroll; **Randy Sedlacek**, Mary Ventura; **Scout Puls**, Bardavon Health Innovations; **Shelby**, Karen Bame and Richard Sundell

IN HONOR OF THE BIRTHDAY OF: **Ann Stern**, Heather Aronoff Donor Advised Fund - JCFGKC; **Sandy**, Louis Eggers; **Stella Lake**, An Anonymous Donor

IN HONOR OF THE GRADUATION OF: **Matthew Serafin**, Heather Aronoff Donor Advised Fund - JCFGKC

IN MEMORY OF: **Ace**, Sherry and Kent Ellis; **Addy**, David Baker; **Aiden McClure**, Block Maintenance Solutions, Chad and Anne McClure, Craig Coen, An Anonymous Donor; **Alex Sanchez**, Schroeder Family Charitable Fund; **Allen Osborn**, Drew and Elizabeth Alexander; **Anita Burns**, Kelbin and Elaine Hardin; **Aussie**, Linda and Steve Block; **Autumn**, Fidos & Felines, LLC; **Autumn Cochran**, Bill Allen, Belton Hy-Vee, Gail McCauley; **Ava Lou**, Jessi Chadd; **Bandit**, Betty Wilson; **Barbara Bridgforth**, Angie Miller; **Bauer**, Nicole Brodie; **Beth Adams**, Amanda Beech; **Bisaha Lennon**, Brandi Butler; **Bo McKenzie**, Caitilyn Taylor; **Bridget**, Dean and Nancy Davison; **Briscoe**, Fidos & Felines, LLC; **Buster Sanders**, Rose M. Beasley; **Carol Gibson**, Ken Oliver; **Carolyn Hughlett**, Melissa Verrinder; **Casey Bever**, Annette Kyrish; **Catherine Deery**, Marc Letourneau, Gary and Connie Blackmore; **Catherine Hader**, Julie Helms; **Chloe Ann Shaw**, Jeffrey and Terri Shaw; **Cody Sullivan**, Michael Sullivan; **Daisy**, Vicki Smith; **Dakota, Buddy and Lucky**, Melissa and William Pelkey;



Dane Grant, Lone Star Durango Foundation, Inc, Pam Grant; **Donald Pratt**, Tricia and Ted Wolfe; **Donna Kilkenny**, Judi Vogan and Family, NextGen, David and Terri Mehrer; **Dorothea Wells**, Bob Wells, Bob Wells; **Faith Benton**, Larry C. Benton; **Foot**, Christopher and Jennifer Andrews; **Fred Benson**, Jayne Ewald; **Gayle Ward**, Carolyn Wyatt, Carol and Paul Henderson; Susan Morris; **Glen Corbett**, Rosemary and Timothy Morris; **Gus the Beagle**, Pamela Miller and Michael Cummings; **Hagow**, Wei Fang; **Hector Sanchez**, Jane Sanchez; **Herbie Davenport**, Mike Peck;

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



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



Socialize with Wayside!

You're Invited *Upcoming Events*

HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE: Saturday, December 9, 2023

Join us for our annual Holiday Open House. Come for refreshments, shelter tours, to adopt a furry friend, and more!

Treats provided by our friends at Hill's Pet Nutrition.



FUR BALL GALA: Saturday, May 11, 2024



Save the date for Wayside's largest FUNdraiser for the animals. With a gourmet dinner, open bars, and a lively auction, this is a night guests won't furr-get.

Visit WaysideWaifs.org for more details about these and other events.

