Cheddar's Battle

Little kitten was in the fight of his life

Dog finds perfect person at Mutt Madness

Horse discovers new career

KHS Pet Help Line supports community
Dear Friends,

I am so happy to count you as a supporter of the Kentucky Humane Society. Every day, you demonstrate that compassion matters!

With your help, 2018 was a wonderful year for the animals. Here are just a few highlights:

- Our S.N.I.P. Clinic moved to a larger location at 4918 Preston Highway. We are looking forward to providing more spay/neuter surgeries to owned dogs and cats than ever before.
- We partnered with the opening of Purrfect Day Café – Louisville’s first cat café – which found homes for over 500 KHS cats in just 5 months.
- Over 6,000 excited families took home a grateful shelter dog or cat. We love helping families grow through pet adoption!
- Our Equine C.A.R.E. program rescued over 100 horses (our most ever!) and launched the T.R.O.T. (Transport Relocation Operations Team) program to help more horses find adopters.
- Our Healthy Pets Clinic, 241 Steedly Drive, offered low-cost vaccines, preventives and basic veterinary services to 9,853 pets.

I am so proud of our staff, volunteers and donors who all make this lifesaving work possible. We truly couldn’t do it without you. I can’t wait to see what we can accomplish together in 2019.

On behalf of the animals, thank you!

Lori Kane Redmon
President and CEO

Pawsitive Kids!

Elyse ran a lemonade stand to raise money and collected donations for her birthday to help our animals. We want to thank her for her compassion and welcome her into our Pawsitive Kids Club!

With a monetary or in-kind donation valued at $20 or more, children can join our Pawsitive Kids Club and make a difference for shelter pets! Learn more at kyhumane.org/services/kids.
Cheddar came to the Kentucky Humane Society in mid-July after he was found seeking safety under a kind woman’s porch. The tiny kitten was weak and in very poor physical condition. His finder knew she must act fast if he were going to have any chance of survival.

Cheddar was on death’s door when he reached our veterinary team. The poor kitten was emaciated, anemic, covered in fleas and suffering from an intestinal tract infection. In addition, our veterinary team removed two botfly larvae. With so many ailments at once, we worried the six-week-old kitten wouldn’t make it.

But he reached with his tiny paw to touch a staff person’s hand, and our hearts melted. Even in pain and frail health, he still craved love and human touch.

Our staff provided emergency care and then transferred Cheddar to a local animal hospital where he could receive round-the-clock medical care. After several days in the hospital, Cheddar was still in critical condition. He was not eating on his own and had to be fed through a tube every couple of hours, but he was not giving up. He crawled into our laps and gave the biggest meow he could muster.

It was then we knew that Cheddar was a fighter and might just beat the odds.

After 13 days in the hospital, Cheddar was released. The death-defying kitten was eating on his own, his wounds were healing and he was starting to put on weight.

Cheddar wasn’t out of the woods quite yet, though. After being too weak to stand for weeks, his back legs had atrophied, and he was having trouble walking and using the litter box.

We sent him into a foster home where he could continue his recovery. His foster mother brought Cheddar in for weekly acupuncture and soon enough, Cheddar’s legs were responding!

Two months after Cheddar arrived at our doors, he was finally healed and ready to find his forever home. Cheddar was sent to our partners at the Purrfect Day Café, where he enjoyed all the comforts of a home as he waited for a family to fall in love with him. On September 4, the Boddy family came to Purrfect Day, and it was love at first sight! They adopted Cheddar, and his real life finally began.

Cheddar’s story is a true testament of the willpower shelter animals have. Even when his little body was wracked by parasites and disease, he refused to give up and continued to show us how strong he really was. It was a long, hard journey to health for Cheddar, one that would not have been possible without your generosity and support.

Thank you for giving a second chance to animals like Cheddar.
At nine years of age, Wilbur had seen a lot of heartache.

The big collie mix with patient brown eyes came to the Kentucky Humane Society after possibly years of neglect.

But, thanks to our supporters, Wilbur’s story has a happy ending – something we want for all homeless animals.

Wilbur had a wonderful puppyhood with his first owner – he loved going for walks and spending time with his special person. But tragically, his life slowly fell apart as his owner succumbed to addiction.

Wilbur found himself going from a cherished companion to living alone in a backyard as his owner sought treatment. A tumor started growing on his chest, and – left untreated – it grew to the size of a melon. Wilbur was also tormented by flea bites, which led to a skin infection.

Finally, a concerned family member stepped in, and Wilbur was surrendered to KHS. Our veterinary team removed the three-pound tumor – which, thankfully, was not cancerous – and Wilbur spent time healing in foster care. Finally Wilbur was ready to find his forever home.

Wilbur attended OPEI’s Mutt Madness adoption event, where he met Donna. Donna, a senior citizen like Wilbur, had also known heartache. Her entire universe had been her elderly Labrador Retriever, but he had recently passed away. Deep in grief, Donna didn’t know what to do without the constant companionship of a furry friend.

When Donna saw Wilbur, she knew they were meant to be together. She believed they could both heal each other’s hearts. She adopted him on the spot.

Wilbur is again the center of someone’s universe, and Donna is his.

Your support enables us to rescue, heal and find happily-ever-afters for the animals at KHS.

Last October, 10 lucky shelter dogs found homes at the first-ever Mutt Madness at the Kentucky Exposition Center’s Freedom Hall. The event was part of GIE+EXPO, the country’s largest trade show for outdoor living and equipment.

What’s the connection between shelter dogs and the great outdoors?

“Well, parents know kids want a house with a yard because kids want a house with a dog,” says Kris Kiser, president of the Outdoor Power Equipment Institute (OPEI), which hosted the trade show and Mutt Madness.

“And, who knows your yard best? Your dog. Who empowers the making of that yard? The exhibitors, partners and attendees of GIE+EXPO. It made sense to pull them together.”

At the one-day event, Kris and “TurfMutt, Backyard Superhero” donated $10,000 to KHS to support our work.

TurfMutt is a cartoon character based on Kris’s own rescue pooch, Lucky, and the inspiration for “TurfMutt, Backyard Superhero,” an educational program that is delivered to thousands of educators and students in grades K-5 annually through Scholastic Corp. Kris and TurfMutt have been an on-screen educational voice on CBS’s Lucky Dog show and appear in a new broadcast show “Ready, Set, Pet.”

The plan is to make Mutt Madness an annual event, according to Kris, who said that many adopters from Mutt Madness have kept in touch about their “Expo Dogs.”

Renew Your Support
Thank you for being a KHS supporter! Your annual contributions allow KHS to take in animals like Wilbur, give them time to heal and then find them loving homes. To renew your support, return the enclosed envelope or give online at kyhumane.org/donate. On behalf of the animals, thank you!
Horse Begins a New Career

Captain Jack – now named Captain Jack Sparrow – is a gorgeous senior who proves the right horse just needs the right owner. He has found a new career with a liberty team. The team of three horses is composed of rescues: a band of misunderstood horses, all needing the right owner to bring out the best in them.

Captain Jack Sparrow was surrendered by his previous owner to our Equine C.A.R.E. program at 20 years of age, after a career that included jumping, driving and trail riding. After surrender, a veterinarian found Jack had severe arthritis in his hocks and a mild case of heaves. His age and medical conditions potentially made for a difficult placement; however, his new adopter and trainer, Karla, saw past this and recognized Jack’s potential. She started training him for liberty work, and he took to it immediately; in less than 30 days, Captain Jack Sparrow participated in a performance and was perfect! Karla and Jack are also giving a few little ones beginner rider lessons. His new adopter loves him and feels blessed to have found him.

Couple Remembers KHS at Wedding

by Judy Gannon

The decision to ask our wedding guests to make donations to the Kentucky Humane Society in lieu of gifts was really quite simple. We have been blessed with so much over the course of our lives … we have everything we need. We really didn’t need more “things.” The perfect solution for us was to ask our guests to make donations to KHS as there is nothing closer to our hearts than animals.

Philosophically, each of us can make a small difference in the lives of animals, and for some that serves as a reason not to make even a small effort, thinking: “What difference can I make when the need is so great?” But, we can make a huge difference by our individual actions, no matter how small. Every act of kindness has value, and has a positive impact on our lives and the lives of others on this planet.

So, why KHS? I took a business approach and decided that KHS was best able to create a process whereby donations were easy to make and track. Our conversations and email exchanges made us feel that KHS has a professional staff, is well organized and has a good reputation, and we felt that the funds raised would be put to best use. And, to be honest, in a selfish sense I wanted the donations to be appreciated, and I feel they were, very much, appreciated.

We’re grateful to KHS and all they do for abused and neglected animals! Help in whatever way you can, when you can, to support their vision and mission! 🐾

Thank you! We wish you and your husband a wonderful life together, Judy!

Become a Lifelong Friend

Is the Kentucky Humane Society already in your estate plans? Thank you! Please let us know – it helps KHS plan for the future and gives us the opportunity to thank you. Contact Kristin Binkowski in the Development Office at kbinkowski@kyhumane.org or 502-515-3147 to have your name added to the Lifelong Friends Society. Your gift may remain anonymous, if you like.

There are many benefits to becoming a Lifelong Friend, including becoming enrolled in our Pet Guardianship Program, which cares for your animals once you are no longer able. For more information, call Kristin. 🐾
Pet Help Line Success Stories

Our Pet Help Line Coordinators make a difference every day! From health emergencies to solutions to behavior challenges, the free KHS Pet Help Line serves the community seven days a week. Here are just a couple examples of the ways the Pet Help Line has solved problems for community pet parents.

Hank’s Story
Christina called our Pet Help Line shortly after adopting her second dog from KHS. She had two dogs in the home before adopting Hank, and while Hank had a successful "meet and greet" with the dogs before adoption, the next day Hank snapped at the smallest dog. Our Pet Help Line team talked to Christina about redoing the dog introductions in a neutral location and providing positive reinforcement. They also suggested she keep Hank on a 6-foot lead for a while, even when in the home, so she could easily control where he goes and how close he gets to the other dogs. When we followed up with Christina six months later, she gave us this wonderful update: “Hank is a pleasure to everyone he meets. He has adjusted well, and we love him so very, very much! He has a big sister, Lucie, and a little sister, Luna, whom he gets along with great now. He loves to sleep, catch bees and steal treats from the counters! Thanks for checking on us!” A big thanks to Dogs Trust Worldwide, which supports our Pet Help Line.

Princess’ Story
Kathryn adopted a senior cat from the Kentucky Humane Society. Shortly after adopting, Kathryn was temporarily laid off from her job. At that same time, she noticed that Princess was not eating or drinking, and the poor kitty was unable to keep food down. She took Princess to the veterinarian for bloodwork and a physical exam. They could not identify what was wrong. Kathryn could not afford the ultrasound the vet needed to diagnose Princess, so she contacted the Pet Help Line for assistance. Thanks to a grant from PetSmart Charities, Inc., our Pet Help Line approved her for financial aid to cover the ultrasound. The veterinarians were able to treat Princess, and she started eating again. When we checked in with Kathryn later, Princess was eating great and Kathryn was even worried about her getting a little too chubby! 🐱

Ask the Experts
Got a pet-related question? Call or text our Pet Help Line to find free advice and access to local pet resources, (502) 509-4738 or visit kyhumane.org/help. Our Pet Help Line is made possible by grants from PetSmart Charities and Dogs Trust Worldwide. The Pet Help Line is designed to help keep pets in their homes and out of shelters by giving owners the tools they need to have healthy relationships with their pets. 🐾
Animal shelters can be very stressful for pets – which is why the Kentucky Humane Society (KHS) is delighted to announce it has received a grant from the PEDIGREE Foundation to recruit more families to foster shelter dogs.

“No matter how hard we try, a shelter will never be a home,” says Robin Vincent, KHS Shelter Operations Director. “And sometimes, the best place for a shelter animal is in a temporary foster home until they are ready for adoption.”

The $7,920 grant for “Fast Forward Fostering” allows KHS to grow the number of trained foster families interested in helping shy/fearful dogs, large dogs and nursing moms with puppies.

“We are so grateful for the support of the PEDIGREE Foundation,” said Robin. “They are an incredible partner, and over the years have helped us save the lives of hundreds of shelter dogs in Kentucky.”

KHS anticipates that at least 65 dogs will be impacted by this grant.

Become a Foster Caregiver
Families who are interested in fostering are encouraged to contact the KHS Foster Department at foster@kyhumane.org or call 502-366-3355 ext. 2260. Foster caregivers attend an orientation session, after which they are ready to take home an animal. KHS provides food and basic supplies, and foster families provide a loving, temporary home until the pets are ready for adoption.

About PEDIGREE Foundation
PEDIGREE Foundation was established in 2008 to help dogs in need find loving homes. Created by Mars Petcare, the maker of PEDIGREE® food for dogs, it is an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and supports the work of shelters and dog rescues throughout the country. 🐾

KHS, ASPCA & GreaterGood.org Support Rural Shelters
Almost every day of the week, needy animals are transported to the Kentucky Humane Society’s adoption program from overcrowded shelters. This journey helps KHS save the lives of over 3,500 animals a year.

“Often, rural shelters struggle with too many unwanted pets coming in and not enough resources to care for them,” explains Kristin Seaman, KHS Transport Manager.

To assist Kentucky’s rural shelters, the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals® (ASPCA®) and GreaterGood.org have both contributed $10,000 to KHS’ rural transport program. KHS will give the $20,000 to partner shelters in the form of free vaccines and preventives, gas cards, and funds that shelters can use for spay/neuter surgeries for owned pets or medical care for shelter animals.

“The goal is to help rural shelters create proactive, long-term solutions to reduce overcrowding and ensure that more pets find loving homes,” says Kristin.

GreaterGood.org is a 501(c)3 charitable organization devoted to improving the health and well-being of people, pets and the planet. Learn more at greatergood.org.

Founded in 1866, the ASPCA is the first animal welfare organization in North America and serves as the nation’s leading voice for animals. Learn more at aspca.org.
KHS Launches “Perfect Pet Match”

Anyone who has adopted a pet knows there is a period of adjustment as their new companion settles in. For some pets, the transition is quick and easy. Others take more time to feel completely comfortable in a new home.

To ensure the right fit, the Kentucky Humane Society offers the “Perfect Pet Match” Exchange Program, which gives adopters a 14-day adjustment period to evaluate the pet’s progress and their adoption decision.

If, within those 14 days, adopters determine their new pet isn’t a good fit, they may call the KHS Pet Help Line, 502-509-4738, to make an appointment to return the pet to KHS. They will receive an adoption credit that can be used within six months toward the adoption of another animal who better fits their family. We encourage adopters to provide as much information about the pet as possible, so that we can find a perfect match the next time.

“Sometimes, through no fault of the adopter or the animal, adoptions don’t work out. We want to help both the adopter and the pet find their perfect, lifelong match,” said Robin Vincent, KHS Shelter Operations Director. Learn more at kyhumane.org/adopt.

BISSELL Pet Foundation Helps #EmptyTheShelters

Nothing makes us happier than seeing empty kennels and excited families with their new furry family members!

Thanks to BISSELL Pet Foundation’s (BPF) national Empty the Shelters event on October 6, 121 lucky shelter animals at the Kentucky Humane Society found new families. This is the largest single pet adoption day on record for KHS!

So when BISSELL Pet Foundation asked us to join 80 other shelters on Dec. 1 for another Empty the Shelters event, we jumped at the chance. That day, 62 pets were adopted.

Cathy Bissell, founder of BPF, explained they sponsor adoption events because of the great need.

“I have received urgent phone calls from shelter directors across the country saying that their shelters are more crowded than ever,” said Cathy. “The problem is overwhelming. Shelters are full of wonderful family pets who have been surrendered for a variety of reasons, through no fault of their own, and deserve to be in homes.”

BPF is supported by generous donors and BISSELL Homecare, Inc. Up to $10 for every pet product purchased helps fund the foundation’s mission. Learn more at bissellpetfoundation.org.
Vet Learns Love Is the Best Medicine – and wins $50,000 Petco Foundation Grant for KHS

We are so excited the Kentucky Humane Society won a $50,000 grant from Petco Foundation’s Holiday Wishes Campaign – thanks to an inspiring story about how one little dog helped our shelter veterinarian learn that love is the best medicine. Learn more about Petco Foundation and the competition at petcofoundation.org/holiday-wishes.

Here’s our veterinarian’s story, in her own words:

My name is Dr. Emily Bewley and I LOVE animals – always have. I wanted to be a veterinarian since I was 5 years old, and through hard work and dedication, I did it! But here’s the catch – I really didn’t like it once I got there. I wasn’t confident, and I started to hate my job. It was awful.

After five years in private practice, I started working as a shelter veterinarian at the Kentucky Humane Society. I enjoyed shelter medicine more, but still didn’t have as much confidence as a veterinarian as I would’ve liked.

One morning, I was spaying and neutering a litter of three puppies. One of the boys was noticeably smaller and more frail than the rest; half the size of his littermates! Under anesthesia he was breathing harder than normal, and I knew something was wrong. We took an X-ray that showed a very large diaphragmatic hernia – without corrective surgery he would die, and I was the one who had to fix him.

This surgery is intense; scary to perform and technically difficult. I never thought I could do a good job or that he would survive, but without trying he would die. During this surgery, the puppy’s heart stopped three times. His liver, stomach, and intestines were in his chest and attached to his heart. I had to detach and replace his organs, put them in their correct places, and piece his diaphragm back together – like putting together a Lego set.

The hours after surgery were touch and go. I was sure he wasn’t going to make it. My technicians were more confident than I was and took wonderful care of the puppy – we even decided to call him “Lego.”

To my great delight, Lego survived and thrived, surpassing all my expectations. Thanks to Lego, I became emboldened to try more surgeries and help more pets. I enjoy surgery so much more now and have learned techniques I never thought I was capable of before – all because of Lego.

My husband and three sons fell in love with Lego as we nursed him back to health in our home. Several months later, we officially adopted him. Now at 90 pounds, Lego is the largest and strongest dog I’ve ever had. He is a great family pet and has helped me to be a better veterinarian.

Because of him I am able to save more cats and dogs’ lives than I ever thought possible. And it turns out I now love my profession! Lego has saved more lives than he will ever know, and has changed my life immeasurably. 🐾
Happy Tails!

Gus is a handsome Pit Bull Terrier who found himself at the Kentucky Humane Society when his owner passed away. Gus caught Jeff’s eye at the St. Matthews Feeder’s Supply adoption center and it was love at first tail wag! Jeff decided to adopt Gus, and we couldn’t be happier. Congratulations, Gus! 🐾

Happy Tails!

Luna is a three-year-old Domestic Shorthair kitty who came to the Kentucky Humane Society when her owner could no longer care for her. Tonia met Luna at the Dixie Feeder’s Supply adoption site, and it was a purrfect match! Congratulations on your new best friend, Tonia, and thank you for choosing adoption. 🐾

Happy Tails!

After many weeks at the shelter, our senior Toby was adopted by James at the Dixie Feeder’s Supply adoption site. James is a senior himself, so he was able to adopt Toby through our Seniors for Seniors program, which provides lower adoption fees for senior dogs and cats adopted by senior citizens. A big congratulations to this wonderful pair! 🐾

Happily Fur-ever After

Four years ago, I adopted my cat, Pumpkin (right). He now has two sisters, Cinnamon and Coco. I was so excited when I saw these two cute little kittens. I fostered them in May and adopted them in June. They play and give kitty rubs to Pumpkin. It is such a delight to have them. They are a real treasure to Pumpkin and me! Thank you, KHS!

~ Sarah Greenberg 🐾

An Easy Way to Give

Want an easy way to support the Kentucky Humane Society? Use AmazonSmile instead of the direct Amazon link (smile.amazon.com), and select the Kentucky Humane Society as your charity. A percentage of your total will be donated to KHS!

Last year, the Kentucky Humane Society received $2,700 from AmazonSmile contributions!
Waggin’ Trail Fundraising Begins. Help Us Save Companion Animals!

Get ready to have fun and fundraise! The Kentucky Humane Society’s walk and festival for the animals is Sunday, June 9, and we want you to sign up and help us raise money for the animals!

Start a team or go solo. Walk, or just rest and relax at the festival. This is your chance to help spread the word about KHS to your friends and family and help us save even more animals!

Our fundraising website is support.kyhumane.org/wtrail.

Dog Day Nights

Join us at Slugger Field as the Louisville Bats host Dog Day nights (formerly Dog Days at the Park). Once again in 2019, the Bats will offer three evenings where dogs are welcome to join you in enjoying a baseball game. At these games, dog tickets will be $3, and all proceeds from these tickets go to the Kentucky Humane Society to support our mission! All three Tuesday night games will start at 7 p.m., with a doggie parade prior to the game. Join us May 7, June 11 and August 13 for a great time!

Picture Your Pets with Santa Success!

The annual Picture Your Pets with Santa fundraiser raised $100,000 for the local animal welfare organizations that managed the Feeder’s Supply sites. The Kentucky Humane Society is delighted to report that we raised $58,000 for KHS!

We want to thank everyone who came out to make this event so successful. We couldn’t have done it without the hundreds of volunteers who devoted part of their holiday time to brighten the lives of our donors and customers.

We’d also like to thank Feeder’s Supply for hosting this event. Our partnership with Feeder’s is very important to us!

Finally, a big thanks to Park Community Credit Union and PetFirst Pet Insurance for sponsoring the event.
Contact Us

Sam Swope Pet TLC Center
241 Steedly Drive
Louisville, KY 40214

Admissions by Appointment
(502) 366-3355

Healthy Pets Clinic
Tuesday–Saturday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
(502) 515-3133
No appointment necessary

East Campus
1000 Lyndon Lane, Suite B
Louisville, KY 40222

Adoptions
Monday–Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Saturday–Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Adoptions (502) 272-1070
Pet Help Line (502) 509-4738
Donations (502) 515-3143
Volunteers (502) 515-3145
Behavior Training (502) 253-2883
Equine Programs (502) 515-3141

Feeders Supply Adoptions
Dixie, Fern Creek, Hikes Point, North
Dixie, Preston, Springhurst and St.
Matthews
Monday–Saturday, 9 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Eastpoint Pet Resort
13310 Magisterial Drive
Louisville, KY 40223
(502) 253-2221

Fern Creek Pet Resort
5225 Bardstown Road
Louisville, KY 40291
(502) 499-1910

S.N.I.P. Clinic
4918 Preston Highway
Louisville, KY 40213
(502) 636-3491

www.kyhumane.org
(502) 366-3355

Waggin' Trail Walk &
Festival for the Animals
June 9, 2019
2-5 p.m.

Register today!
support.kyhumane.org/wtrail

Kentucky Humane Society
Waggin' Trail
June 9 Festival for the Animals