

Letter from Lori



www.kyhumane.org

On the Cover

Hope and
Knox survived
a shooting that
killed 20 of their
herd. They are
recovering at
our Willow Hope Farm. Photo by
William Beasley.

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2019 Was 'Year of the Cat'

Dear Friends,

What an amazing year 2019 was for the animals! Thanks to your support, we had our largest adoption year on record! Incredibly, 6,902 animals found homes through the Kentucky Humane Society.

And the biggest winners were cats – which is why we are calling 2019 "the year of the cat." For the first time in our history, cat adoptions were higher than dog adoptions. In total, 3,424 cats, 3,398 dogs and 80 horses found homes.

More and more, cats are becoming people's choice for a new pet. Cats are often great companions for senior citizens, busy families, renters, people who travel



Lori with her newly adopted cat, Cam (see page 5)

for work – and we're seeing many millennials choosing cats as their first furry family members.

Incredibly, 1,583 cat adoptions took place at Purrfect Day Café, located on Bardstown Road. The cafe serves coffee, snacks and cocktails while patrons interact with adoptable kittens and cats from KHS.

At the same time adoptions have been going up, KHS is seeing fewer unwanted cats and dogs from Jefferson County, as more and more people are spaying and neutering their animals.

With fewer shelter animals in Jefferson County, we've been able to extend our reach to help overcrowded shelters through our Love 120 program. Launched in 2019, this pilot project is funded by the Arnall Family Foundation's WaterShed Animal Fund: the goal is to positively impact companion animals in all 120 Kentucky counties within the next decade.

Our Love 120 project helps rural communities by providing spay/neuter and wellness services to owned animals, transferring animals from overcrowded shelters to KHS for adoption, and providing shelter leaders with advice and access to resources to help them increase their lifesaving capacity and sustainability.

Whether you live in Louisville, Southern Indiana, another area of Kentucky, or far away, I thank you for your support! By donating, YOU are the reason we can serve Kentucky's neediest cats, dogs and horses.

Sincerely,

Lori Kane Redmon President and CEO





Backyard Dog Finds Hope and Happiness

Lavender had nothing to live for.

The lonely dog was locked to a chain. She shivered in the freezing cold, and panted in the blazing sun. She never experienced human kindness.

The collar around her neck had been placed there as a puppy, and had never been loosened as she grew. It was now so tight it cut into her skin, causing deep wounds. Every day was misery.

Until one day last summer, someone freed Lavender. They cut the cable that tied her to her backyard prison and dumped her outside of Kentucky Humane Society's Sam Swope Pet Treatment & Lifesaving Center on Steedly Drive. We'll never know who freed her, or why. Was it guilt from her owner? Compassion from an anonymous rescuer? Regardless, Lavender was about to be saved.

Sara and Jennifer, two KHS veterinary assistants, saw the scared dog running loose.

"We could smell the infection from 10 feet away, and there was such fear in her eyes," remembers Sara. "It was awful how much she had suffered."

Sara and Jennifer brought Lavender to the shelter. Sara crouched down next to Lavender and offered her a treat. Lavender threw herself into Sara's arms and gave her happy kisses.

The embedded collar was the worst that our shelter veterinarian, Dr. Emily Bewley, had ever seen. "The wounds were two inches deep in some areas. It was a miracle she was still alive," says Dr. Bewley.

Our veterinary team cleaned and stitched her wounds. Every day as they

changed her bandages, they told her what a good girl she was.

Finally Lavender's wounds healed, and she was ready to find a family to love her. Then, one day, it happened. A couple came in to the Kentucky Humane Society's East Campus, looking for a companion. They met Lavender, and immediately knew she was the one!

Now, Lavender has what she always hoped for – a forever home with a loving family.

That's what every homeless dog, cat and horse wants when them come in to the Kentucky Humane Society. Thanks to supporters like you, KHS gives every animal the time and resources they need to become the amazing companions they were meant to be.

Renew Your Membership in 2020

Will you renew your support and become a member of the Kentucky Humane Society in 2020? Donations from caring people like you allow KHS to take in, heal and find homes for thousands of needy animals every year. To renew your membership or become a new member, return the enclosed envelope or give online at www.kyhumane.org. To discuss your gift, call 502-502-3143.

Rescuing Hope Free-roaming Herd Gunned Down, but Three Survivors Recovering at KHS



Knox and his mother, Hope, play in the pasture at KHS' Willow Hope Farm after being rescued. They survived the killing of 20 of their herd mates.

With a hesitant step, the heavily pregnant mare and her weanling colt stepped gingerly off the trailer and into the barn at the Kentucky Humane Society's Willow Hope Farm in Simpsonville in late December.

They had good reason to be wary. Just two weeks earlier, they witnessed someone committing a heinous act of cruelty: 20 horses from their free-roaming herd were hunted down and killed in Eastern Kentucky.

"It looked like a battlefield for just horses," said Floyd County Sheriff John Hunt, who investigated the scene. Some of the horses had grass still in their mouths from feeding. Even pregnant mares and foals were not spared this carnage.

"This wasn't a random act," said KHS President & CEO Lori Redmon. "It was such a remote site that someone had to go with the intent to harm these horses. They had to have an all-terrainvehicle, they had to have guns, they had to hunt them down and kept pursuing until 20 were dead. It is just incomprehensible to me why somebody would do that."

KHS equine donors contributed \$2,500 toward a reward leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for this act of cruelty. With support from local and national donors the reward ballooned to over \$20,000. When this magazine went to press, authorities had not yet named a suspect.

Somehow, amidst all this carnage, a few horses survived. Dumas Rescue – a local animal welfare group with whom KHS works with closely – captured two survivors and brought them to KHS.



Diamond (in the trailer) arrives at our farm and sees her mother and brother for the first time in weeks. She and Knox seem to have a close bond.

The 15-year-old mare, whom we named Hope, is friendly and gentle, and must have been someone's horse before she was abandoned. Her pregnancy hid how very thin she really was, and she had a large belly from multiple pregnancies. It's the fate of many mares in Kentucky's free-roaming herds breeding year after year, barely getting enough nutrients to keep themselves and their babies alive.

We named her foal Knox, which is Scottish for "from the hills," because he was born in the mountains. Until he came to KHS, he had never been touched by humans. Within a few days, he allowed the KHS Equine C.A.R.E. (connect, assist, rescue and educate) staff to brush him. He is a curious and calm colt.

Two weeks later, Dumas Rescue volunteers captured a third survivor from this herd. Diamond is a young filly whom we believe is Hope's daughter. Diamond has joined her mother and brother at our equine facility in Simpsonville, Willow Hope Farm.

"I believe these horses survived for a reason," says Lori. "They are here to tell the story of Kentucky's free-roaming horses, and the tremendous need there is for resources to help them."

There are thousands of free-roaming horses living in the mountains of Appalachia. These are domestic horses - not wild horses – who have been abandoned by their owners on former strip mines. The KHS Equine C.A.R.E. team works with local authorities in Eastern Kentucky to save the lives of these at-risk horses. Learn more about this issue and what KHS is doing to help at kyhumane.org/horses/free-roaming-horses. 📽



Lori with Hope, who is estimated to be 15 years old. Hope birthed many foals in the mountains, and many of the horses killed are believed to be her offspring.



Willow was rescued from this same herd in October after she was abandoned by her owner. She was skin and bones when she arrived.



By December, Willow had already begun to fill out. Inspired by her resiliency and ability to thrive, we named our farm after Willow.

'Willow Hope Farm' Named for Survivor

On October 24, we unveiled the name of our new farm in Simpsonville: Willow Hope Farm. The farm is named after Willow, a starving horse who was within days of death before we rescued her. By fate or coincidence, Willow came from the same free-roaming herd as Hope and Knox.

At a dedication ceremony on October 24, KHS President & CEO Lori Redmon and longtime KHS board member and supporter Patti Swope planted a willow tree at the entrance to the farm.

"We chose the name Willow Hope Farm because of the willow tree's ability to survive and even thrive despite harsh conditions. Willow trees show us that even through great challenges, we have the ability to grow – an apt metaphor for horses in transition," says Lori.

"While we didn't plan it, we now have two horses from the same herd – Willow and Hope – whose names are reflected as part of our farm."

Willow continues to gain weight, and at time of publication, she was ready for adoption as a beginner safe trail horse.

You're Invited! Tour Our Farm March 21

We are hosting an open house – or an "open farm" – and we invite you to stop by! Take a tour of Willow Hope Farm, meet our horses, wqatch out foals play and learn more about our equine work on Saturday, March 21, 12-4 pm. To RSVP, contact Carrie Burns at 502-515-3134 or cburns@kyhumane.org.

How to Help

You can help Kentucky's needy horses by donating online at kyhumane.org/equine-donate; to discuss your gift, call 502-515-3143. Our Equine C.A.R.E. program is also looking for volunteers who are experienced horse handlers; to learn about volunteer opportunities, email volunteer@kyhumane.org. Learn more about our horses by following us at facebook.com/khsequine.

Puppy Training to Be a Superhero

As any DC Comics fan knows, superheroes must overcome adversity before they realize their potential. It's no different for Mulligan, who is now a "superhero" for TurfMutt Foundation.

At just five weeks old, Mulligan was orphaned along with her three siblings in Shelby County KY. It was a rough start for the young puppy. But now she's a superhero in training and lives with her "dad," Kris Kiser, president of TurfMutt Foundation, in Virginia.

She will fill the cape left behind by Lucky the TurfMutt, who recently passed away after serving as the organization's superhero voice for a decade. The foundation promotes environmental stewardship, and its program has inspired millions of kids, families and teachers to become backyard superheroes by creating and sustaining suburban and urban habitat, parks, sports fields and other green spaces.

Mulligan – or Mully for short – was adopted by Kris during Lucky's Mutt Madness at Louisville's Freedom Hall in October. This national dog adoption event takes place during GIE+EXPO, the international landscape, outdoor living and equipment exposition.

"Mutt Mulligan" will assume spokesdog duties for the TurfMutt Foundation once her puppy training is complete.

Animal rescue has always been part of the TurfMutt education equation, which makes Mulligan a perfect fit to fill the superhero cape left by Lucky.



Mully tries on her cape with her new "dad," Kris

"The Kentucky Humane Society does a world of good by rescuing neglected, abused and unwanted animals and helping them find forever homes," says Kris. "We are proud to support them."

For the last two years, at Lucky's Mutt Madness, the TurfMutt Foundation and GIE+EXPO donated \$10,000 to KHS to support our work in animal rehabilitation, rescue and adoption. 📽

BISSELL Helps KHS Empty the Shelters

We were thrilled when BISSELL Pet Foundation invited KHS to participate in their national Empty the Shelters events last October and December. During these events, BPF helps subsidize adoption fees at over 100 shelters so pets can find loving homes faster.

On Oct. 12, 82 grateful KHS pets found loving homes. And Dec. 13-14 during the Empty the Shelters - Holiday Hope event, 79 cats and dogs were adopted.

We can't thank BISSELL Pet Foundation enough for their compassion! Founded in 2011 by Cathy Bissell, BPF is supported by generous donors and BISSELL Homecare Inc. Up to \$25 for every pet product purchased helps fund the foundation's mission. Learn more at bissellpetfoundation.org. **



Harvey was one of 79 pets adopted at the December Empty the shelters event.

Rescued Cats Get New Start at KHS

Last fall, the Kentucky Humane Society (KHS) was contacted by a national animal rescue group that had recently removed 88 cats from a former cat sanctuary. The cats exhibited illnesses consistent with overcrowding and medical neglect. Could we help? they asked.

KHS agreed to take in over a dozen of these cats. Despite suffering from significant upper respiratory and eye infections, the cats were very social and loved getting attention from our staff and volunteers. After a few weeks in care, they were ready for adoption.

One of the cats, Cam - an affectionate two-year-old orange tabby – was adopted by KHS President & CEO Lori Redmon (See Lori's letter).

"Cam makes me laugh every day with his silly antics and fun-loving personality," says Lori. "He follows me around demanding attention, and is equally

social with my dogs and other cats. You'd never know he came from a hoardingtype situation."

Unfortunately, seeing animals suffering from overcrowded conditions is not uncommon, according to Robin Vincent, KHS Shelter Operations Director.



Shelter veterinarian Dr. Emily Bewley with the rescued cats.

"We sometimes see well-meaning animal rescuers who get in over their heads, and the animals suffer," says Robin.

In this particular case, the cats' owner voluntarily surrendered custody of all of the cats to Animal Rescue Corps (ARC) during their "Operation Feline Freedom." ARC is a national nonprofit organization that helps conduct animal rescue operations, providing immediate veterinary care, equipment and placement services for rescued animals. ARC then placed the animals with partner shelter and rescue organizations, including KHS.

"We were thrilled to give these wonderful cats the medical care they needed, and then find them loving homes," says Robin. "It's so rewarding to give them a fresh start." 😩

Ava (right) was one of 13 cats who came to KHS for adoption after being rescued.

Kitten Shower at Purrfect Day Café



Kids made cat toys at last year's Kitten Shower at Purrfect Day Café.

People who work or volunteer for animal shelters are very familiar with "kitten season": it's when the majority of kittens are born. Kitten season usually begins in the spring, but KHS is already seeing lots of nursing cats and kittens needing help.

To help prepare for hundreds of incoming kittens, Purrfect Day Café is hosting a kitten shower for KHS. The kitten shower will take place March 29 at Louisville's first cat café, 1741 Bardstown Road. At this family-friendly event, guests are encouraged to bring donations, such as kitten pate food, heating pads, baby wipes, small cat toys, baby blankets and kitten milk replacer and bottles.

Learn more by following Purrfect Day Café at facebook.com/ purrfectdaycatcafe or visiting our website, kyhumane.org. *

Bluebird Becomes First FeLV+ Adoption at KHS

Feline Leukemia. It's a diagnosis no cat lover wants to hear. In most shelters, cats who test positive for this virus are euthanized. But with new knowledge and with compassionate adopters who understand this disease, KHS is finding homes for cats like Bluebird.

Bluebird is a beautiful calico kitty who is super sweet and loving. She enjoys being carried like a baby, playing with toys and watching birds from a window.

"Bluebird is an extremely affectionate cat – it's like she knows she was rescued," says adoption counselor Emma Jewett.

Sadly, Bluebird did not have an easy life. At just two years old, she was found abandoned on the Kentucky Humane Society's property along with her kittens. During their veterinary exam, the little family tested positive for Feline Leukemia, or FeLV.

FeLV is a disease that shortens cats' lives by suppressing the immune system and making them more susceptible to illnesses. This autoimmune disease can be transferred to other cats, but not to dogs or humans. Sadly, there is no cure. But that doesn't mean that FeLV positive cats can't have happy lives, and that they are any less deserving of loving homes.

Last fall, Kayla Saylor, KHS Foster Manager, began researching FeLV and reaching out to other shelters who adopt out FeLV cats. She also talked to veterinarians in Louisville who are happy to treat FeLV cats and are supportive of KHS' decision to find homes for them.



Bluebird was adopted in December.

FeLV cats need frequent veterinary care due to their condition, and they must be kept inside and away from cats who don't have the virus.

"Most adopters report that adopting FeLV cats is extremely rewarding," she says. "Adopting these special needs kitties is truly lifesaving."

That's the case with Bluebird's owner. Camillia read about Bluebird online. After meeting Bluebird and learning more about FeLV, she chose to adopt her.

By the time this magazine went to press, Bluebird's kittens, Zatanna and Raven, were ready for adoption. The two are very bonded, and they are looking for a home together. 📽

The Cure for Cabin Fever: Doggie Daycare

Is your dog bored at home this winter? If your dog has "cabin fever," we have the cure: Doggie Daycare at the Kentucky Humane Society's Fern Creek Pet Resort or Eastpoint Pet Resort!

For just \$20 a day, your dog can romp and play with canine friends in a fully supervised environment while you're at work or running errands. At the end of the day, you'll pick up a tired, happy dog.

We have discounts for multi-day packages, and the first day of Doggie Daycare is free for new clients. Plus proceeds benefit KHS shelter pets!

To schedule a session for your dog, call our Fern Creek Pet Resort, 5225 Bardstown Road, at 502-499-1910, or Eastpoint Pet Resort, 13310 Magisterial Drive, at 502-253-2221. 📽



Buddies enjoying Doggie Daycare at Fern Creek Pet Resort



Dog Day Nights at Slugger Field



Join us at Slugger Field as the Louisville Bats host Dog Day Nights. Once again, the Bats will offer 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!

Join us April 26, May 19, June 2, 30 and August 26 for a great time!

Waggin' Trail at Slugger Field May 31

Get ready to have fun and fundraise! The Kentucky Humane Society's Waggin' Trail Walk & Festival for the Animals is Saturday, May 31, 2-5 p.m. at a new location: Louisville Slugger Field. We invite you to sign up and help us raise money for the animals at this pet-friendly, all-ages event.

Slugger Field has plenty of areas under cover in case of rain. The charity walk begins at 2:30 p.m., and there will be vendors with pet-themed merchandise, rescue organizations, food, beer and games. To sign up, go to support.kyhumane.org/wtrail.

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!



Picture Your Pets with Santa

It was a very Merry Christmas, indeed! Thousands of local families had their pets' photos taken with Santa during the annual Picture Your Pets with Santa at Feeders Supply. We are delighted to report we raised \$63,000 to help Kentucky Humane Society animals through this annual holiday tradition!

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 Feeders Supply for hosting this event. Our partnership with Feeders is very important to us!

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





Love and Annuities to the Rescue!

by Martha A., Taylorsville KY

This beautiful little cutie is Janie. She was found at a rest stop near Lexington in 2004. Since then, Janie has given me unconditional love and devotion, because she knows that I gave her a second chance. Oh yes, animals know when they've been given a second chance.

I designated the Kentucky Humane Society as the beneficiary of my annuity because I believe all animals and rescuers deserve a second chance. Everyone should experience the love and devotion of a rescued pet.

Adding KHS as a beneficiary to your old annuity policy is easy. Just call the company that issued the annuity policy, and they will send you the needed beneficiary change forms.

I feel good knowing that the money being given to KHS will help more animals and people in our community.

About Annuities

Designating KHS as a beneficiary for your IRAs, retirement plans, life insurance policies or commercial annuities is an easy way to support needy animals. And since KHS is tax-exempt, beneficiary gifts are completely tax free, while family and friends beneficiaries are subject to income and estate taxes.

You too can add KHS as a beneficiary of a planned gift and ensure the future success of programs and services benefitting



Janie is a beloved companion for Martha

companion animals. Contact Kristin Binkowski at 502-515-3147 or kbinkowski@kyhumane.org for more information.

Pet Guardianship Program

Have you ever asked yourself, "Who will care for my pets if I no longer can?" KHS' Pet Guardianship Program may be the answer. Contact Kristin at 502-515-3147 or kbinkowski@kyhumane.org to learn more.







800.626.2870 parkcommunity.com

Insured by the NCUA

Happy Tails!



Hugo originally came to the Kentucky Humane Society when his owner's living situation changed and the new housing would not allow Hugo to stay with his family. Hugo spent months with us at KHS looking for the right fit, but unfortunately none of his new homes seemed to work out. Turns out, Hugo was meant to be with his original owner! After working things out with the landlord, Eric contacted KHS asking us if he could bring Hugo back home. The reunion between Eric and Hugo was one of the most beautiful moments we have ever witnessed. Hugo, a pup who never jumped on us once at KHS, immediately recognized his family and tackled them with kisses. His family cried, we cried, it was a true Hallmark moment. We wanted to let everyone who followed Hugo's story know that he found the best ending possible. Reunited and it feels so good! 🗳



After waiting for a few weeks for the right home to come along, Omelette was officially adopted by the Turner family at the North Dixie Feeders Supply! We are so happy for you, Omelette, and want to wish you and your new family a long life together. 🗳



When ten-year-old Noel arrived at KHS, she was suffering from terrible skin allergies that left her miserable, resulting in severe scratching, hair loss and raw, itchy skin; she also had a large benign tumor on her chest. Her original owner had passed away, and another family member took Noel in, but her second family could not afford Noel's veterinary care, so they surrendered Noel to KHS. Our veterinary team removed the growth, placed Noel on antibiotics and steroids to calm her very irritated skin and prescribed a low-allergen food. After a few months in foster care, Noel's hair grew out and she is a happy, beautiful dog enjoying her new home. (Did we mention she loves treats?) 📽



Echo was born an outside kitty who was determined to come inside. One day, Echo ran into a home and brought her two tiny kittens with her. The home owners found it best to surrender them to KHS. After Echo finished raising her kittens, she went up for adoption where she met Ali. Ali fell head over heels for Echo and decided to adopt her and the two are inseparable! 😩

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 |
| Horse Help Line | (502) 495-3881 |

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.

(502) 499-1910

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

Eastpoint Pet Resort

Louisville, KY 40223 (502) 253-2221

Louisville, KY 40291

13310 Magisterial Drive

Fern Creek Pet Resort 5225 Bardstown Road











www.kyhumane.org (502) 366-3355



Waggin' Trail Walk & Festival For the Animals

May 31, 2020 | 2-5 p.m | Louisville Slugger Field Register today! support.kyhumane.org/wtrail

