

Tails

Spring 2012

PROVIDING SECOND CHANCES TO ANIMALS SINCE 1870



May 19, 2012

Cricket Field in Forest Park

Fetch your family, friends, co-workers and canines for the can't-miss event of 2012! Presented by Purina ONE®, Bark in the Park is the largest dog walk and festival in the Midwest—hosting more than 5,000 participants for a fun-filled day the whole family will enjoy. Best of all, proceeds benefit the Humane Society's Animal Cruelty Fund—dedicated to investigating, healing and preventing animal abuse.

Continued on Page 8

G.I. Joe 2012 Mascot

"I would not be alive and thriving today without G.I. Joe," praised his owner Angela Peacock. In 2003, the Iraq war veteran came home with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). She also has painful arthritis. All before her 30th birthday.

G.I. Joe has mitigated her PTSD and arthritis symptoms. "Before G.I. Joe, I never left the house except for food or doctor's appointments. Now, three years later, I am a college student with a 4.0 GPA," said Peacock. The 4½-year-old Black Lab brings smiles to every doctor's office and college class. "I rely on him instead of multiple medications," she said, adding, "We're bonded for life."

G.I. Joe will lead the largest dog festival in the Midwest and sign "paw-tographs" in his Official Mascot tent.

Presented by



Directory

Website

www.hsmo.org
www.longmeadowrescueranch.org

Main Number

314-647-8800

Report Animal Abuse and Neglect

314-647-4400 or 800-383-9835

Adoption Centers

Adoptions, Pet Lost and Found,
Cremation Services

St. Louis City Center 314-951-1562
Westport Area Center 314-951-1588
Chesterfield Valley Center 636-530-0805

Adoption Centers Hours

Mon.-Fri. 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Sun. noon-4 p.m.

Veterinary Medical Centers

All locations 314-951-1534
Patients seen by appointment

Veterinary Medical Centers Hours

St. Louis City Center and
Westport Area Center
Mon. & Fri. 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m.
Tues. & Wed. 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m.
Thurs. 8:30 a.m.-7 p.m.
Sat. 8:00 a.m.-4 p.m.
Chesterfield Valley Center
Mon.-Fri. 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.
Sat. 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Donations 314-951-1542

Memberships, auto donations, planned giving

Volunteer Program 314-951-1577

Longmeadow Rescue Ranch 636-583-8759

Open House: Fridays noon-3 p.m.
Saturdays 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

Other adoption hours by appointment

Location Addresses:

Headquarters/St. Louis City Center –
1201 Macklind Ave., St. Louis, MO 63110
Westport Area Center – 2400 Drilling
Service Dr., Maryland Heights, MO 63043
Chesterfield Valley Center – 17357 Edison
Ave., Chesterfield, MO 63005
Longmeadow Rescue Ranch – 480 Josephs
Rd., Union, MO 64084

All locations closed major holidays.

Tails Staff

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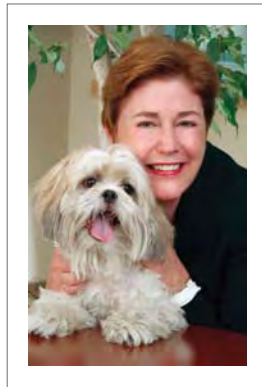
Photography – Mike Bizelli; employees,
volunteers and supporters of the Humane
Society of Missouri

Tails is published quarterly by the
Humane Society of Missouri.

Mission

Since 1870, the Humane Society of Missouri
has been dedicated to second chances.
We provide a safe and caring haven to all
animals in need—large and small—that have
been abused, neglected or abandoned.
Our mission is to end the cycle of abuse and
pet overpopulation through our rescue and
investigation efforts, spay/neuter programs
and educational classes. We are committed to
creating lasting relationships between people
and animals through our adoption programs
and our shelter pet training program.
We further support that bond by making
available world-class veterinary care.

Our Anti-Puppy Mill Efforts Are Paying Off



Kathy Warnick
President

Tremendous progress is being made in the battle to eradicate substandard breeding facilities in Missouri thanks to years of hard work put forth by the Humane Society of Missouri and our partners in this effort. Numerous local and national publicity placements; extensive lobbying, petitioning and grass roots efforts by individuals and local, state and national organizations have led to big improvements for dogs suffering in substandard puppy mills.

The good news includes:

- **Passage of the Canine Cruelty Prevention Act** which improves standards in breeding facilities to include mandatory, annual, hands-on veterinary exams; increased cage space; no wire flooring and outdoor exercise areas.
- **Seven hundred and sixty-one (761) fewer commercial breeders** are operating in Missouri compared to January 2009*.
- **More than 5,500 dogs and cats removed** from inadequate conditions in the past two years*, many of which came from substandard breeding facilities. In cooperation with the Missouri Department of Agriculture (MDA), the Humane Society of Missouri has received, rehabilitated and found new homes for many of these animals.
- Over the past three years, MDA has more than **doubled the number of animal care facility inspections** they perform each year, helping ensure the animals are receiving the proper daily care, additional kennel space and veterinary care the regulations now require.
- **More than 400 reports** of unlicensed breeders have been investigated through the State's Operation Bark Alert hotline.
- And 19 cases involving substandard breeders have been referred to the Office of the Missouri Attorney General. Ten have been filed in court; five have ended in settlement agreements and 4 new cases are still in process.

We are thrilled with these amazing successes! At every point, the Humane Society of Missouri has championed for the best interests of the dogs in breeding facilities. In addition to MDA Director Dr. Jon Hagler and Attorney General Chris Koster, much credit also goes to Governor Jay Nixon and the diligent work of Missouri Alliance for Animal Legislation and all organizations and individuals in Missouri and nationwide who took up this cause. The dogs thank you and I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

*As reported by the Missouri Department of Agriculture

P.S. In another continuing cooperative venture, HSMO, the Animal Protective Association and St. Louis County Animal Care and Control have teamed up to launch STLLostPets.org, a joint website to help reunite lost pets with their owners. See the article on page 14. For many years our organizations have worked together to improve the plight of stray animals in the St. Louis area. In the months to come you'll be hearing more about this and other collaborative projects among our three organizations.



A collaboration of:
Animal Protective
Association of Missouri
St. Louis County Animal
Care and Control
Humane Society
of Missouri

Rescue Ranch Supplies Safe Haven to Abandoned Herd



As soon as the call came in from the Vernon County Sheriff's office about abused horses and donkeys, an investigator from the Humane Society Animal Cruelty Task Force (ACT) rushed to respond.

What ACT Investigator Brian Williams found was heartrending.

Seven horses had already succumbed to starvation and five were severely underweight. One we named Tumbleweed was too weak to stand on her own. On January 6, our rescuers carefully placed the filly onto a horse rescue sled and rushed her to an emergency equine clinic. Barely one year old, she weighed only 261 pounds, 130 pounds underweight.

The other 15 horses and two donkeys were taken to Longmeadow Rescue Ranch for the food, water and veterinary care they desperately needed.

The Vernon County Prosecuting Attorney filed 18 counts of felony animal abuse against the former owner, and 11 misdemeanor charges for failure to dispose of deceased animals.

"We are recommending prosecution to the fullest extent of the law," said Mike Perkins, ACT director, of the owners who abandoned the animals. "The Humane Society of Missouri will



provide the prosecutor with veterinary exam reports and other evidence we assisted in gathering from the scene. No animal should be forced to suffer the way these horses have."

Collaboration with the Vernon County Sheriff's Office, Prosecutor's Office and the USDA were key to saving these animals. "We sincerely thank them for their efforts," Perkins added.



Tumbleweed was so weak from lack of food that she could not stand up when we rescued her. Our ACT members rushed the filly to an equine emergency clinic where she was placed in a special sling for treatment. A month later she was standing on her own and beginning to gain weight. Once she reaches maintenance weight, she will be available for adoption.



Longmeadow Rescue Ranch is one of the most comprehensive horse and farm animal rescue, rehabilitation and adoption facilities in the country. At any one time as many as 300 abused and neglected horses, cows, goats, pigs, ducks and other farm animals reside at the ranch.

Rescue Update from the Animal Cruelty Task Force



People, Animals at Risk – Stone County

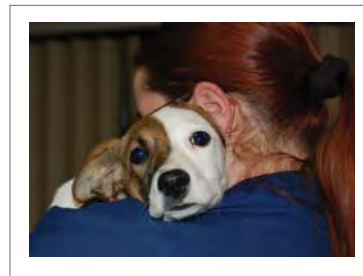
Winter cold was blasting through a hole in the floor of the mobile home where three people lived with some of the 45 animals rescued January 17. Conditions were even worse in a shed where other animals were kept, while others lived outdoors.

Rescuers were overwhelmed with the odor of ammonia when they entered the buildings. “The home’s carpet was so urine-soaked that it had compromised the subfloor which had collapsed in one of the rooms,” stated Debbie Hill, vice president of Operations for the Humane Society of Missouri.

Hill added that the owner’s daughter and mother were also living there. “We recommended to the Stone County Sheriff that Children’s Services and Senior Services be notified of the squalid

conditions they were enduring,” she said.

The owner, an unlicensed breeder, initially agreed to surrender the dogs to the Missouri Department of Agriculture (MDA) but changed her mind at the last minute. Because the dogs were in distress and



immediate jeopardy, MDA and the Animal Cruelty Task Force (ACT) worked with the Stone County Sheriff’s Office to obtain a warrant. One cat and 44 dogs were rescued, including Pugs, Chihuahuas, Shih Tzus, Pit Bull mixes and other small breed adult dogs and puppies.

Woman Surrenders 92 Animals – Taney County

A woman who claimed to be operating a “personal animal rescue service” in Branson agreed to surrender 92 animals on November 30. Some of the animals were roaming free or caged outside. Others lived inside in the house with urine-soaked floors and walls. “It was apparent that she was overwhelmed by the sheer numbers of animals she was trying to care for. Birds and dogs were thin and one dog was suffering from a long-standing, untreated injury,” said Mike Perkins, ACT director.

Rescued were 40 dogs and 52 other animals including doves, conures (large parakeets), cockatiels, love birds, a ringneck parrot, hamsters, cats, chinchillas, ferrets, rats and rabbits.

The owner agreed to voluntarily surrender the animals to the Missouri Department of Agriculture, which immediately transferred permanent custody to the Humane Society of Missouri for veterinary treatment, sheltering and adoption.

Southwest Missouri Tornado Response



When devastation struck southwest Missouri in late February, the Humane Society of Missouri Disaster Response Team again jumped into action. The team rescued 14 dogs from an owner who could no longer care for them due to the damage to his home and animal enclosures. They also rescued two more dogs and one cat injured or made homeless by the storms.

Did you know? HSMO’s nationally accredited veterinary medical centers are open to the public and proceeds benefit animals in our shelters. Call 314-951-1534.

Meet Volunteers Who Enrich Lives

A little over a year ago, shelter volunteer Lisa Ellis read about a program proven to increase adoption rates of larger and untrained dogs. It caught her interest because she saw first-hand how much longer it takes these animals to find homes.

Ellis proposed beginning an in-shelter enrichment program using toys, food puzzles and praise to teach dogs how to be good pets. After a month-long pilot test, during which Laurie Livingston joined Ellis, the Kennel Enrichment program was born.

"Ideally, we engage all the senses when we work with a dog," explained Ellis, who began volunteering four years ago.

The process is simple and takes only a few minutes with each dog. For example: The volunteer gives the dog a favorite toy to play with, or sets down a food puzzle such as a Kong treat-dispensing wobbler. Any time the dog becomes over-excited, the process halts. The dog learns that being calm is rewarded with praise and food.

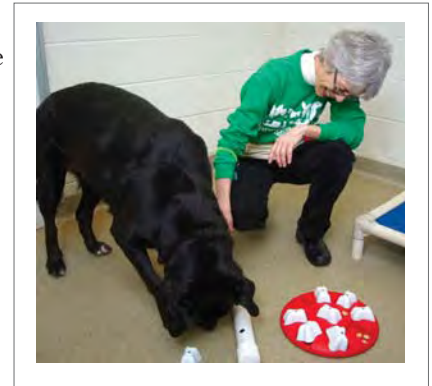
Kennel Enrichment volunteers also reward dogs when they sit, "leave it" and lie down. Said Ellis, "The dogs are figuring out what they can do to get the treat



Lisa Ellis

and the behaviors become ingrained."

"It's rewarding to see the change in behavior which is what is appealing to adopters," said Livingston, a 15-year volunteer who is also a Humane Educator and Pet Pal. "When the dogs play, they show their true personalities instead of being tense."



Laurie Livingston

Both women "walk the walk" when it comes to adopting shelter dogs. Livingston adopted her German Shepherd Eleanor from the Humane Society nine years ago. Ruby, an American Pit Bull Terrier mix, went home with Ellis two years ago. "I especially like this breed because they are loving, smart and playful. As a breed they get a bad rap."

"We are so thankful to Lisa for proposing this program and to the Kennel Enrichment volunteers," said Jeane Jae, vice president of communications at the Humane Society of Missouri. "They are really making a difference."

If you are interested in becoming a Kennel Enrichment volunteer, send an e-mail to volunteer@hsmo.org or leave a message at 314-951-1577.



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- Meet our adorable animal residents!
- Play fun pet-related games and make cool crafts
- Visit our surgery observation windows
- Learn from animal experts and guest speakers



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GIVES US TIME TO HELP OUR
FOUR-LEGGED FRIENDS.**

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The Seven-Year Glitz

Purses & Pumps for Pooches & Pals

Presented by Brown Shoe Company



Cocktails, appetizers and fabulous designer bags raffled for charity. Is that a perfect evening or what? "Yes," decided a group of women seven years ago.



The group solidified as the Women's Leadership Council and the event was dubbed Purses for Pooches & Pals. Members cajoled upscale retailers into donating high-end designer purses and restaurants into serving tasty hors d'oeuvres.

In 2006, its kickoff year, the after-work blend of philanthropy and networking raised \$15,000 for the Humane Society of Missouri.

The following year, the amount was \$27,000; the third year \$52,000. In 2010, Brown Shoe Company came aboard as a sponsor, donating "Shoe Wardrobes" and this year the event was renamed Purses and Pumps for Pooches and Pals. With their help, and the event's growing popularity, the 2011 figure was \$84,000! St. Louis Magazine and AT HOME joined this year as media sponsors.



2012 Purses & Pumps for Pooches & Pals event co-chairs are Diane Sullivan, CEO of Brown Shoe Company; Pam Nicholson, President and COO of Enterprise Rent-A-Car and Judy Gruender, Principal of Buck Consultants. Honorary Chair is Jan Torrisi-Mokwa, Founder of Congruence, Inc.

Proceeds go to the HSMO Animal Cruelty Fund, dedicated to investigating, healing and preventing animal abuse.

2012 Humane Society of Missouri Events Helping Homeless Animals

Thursday,
June 28



Friday,
September 14



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Open to the public at three locations:

City of St. Louis, Westport, Chesterfield Valley

314-951-1534





Saturday, May 19

10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Walk begins at 11 a.m.

Cricket Field | Forest Park, St. Louis

Register online at hsmo.org/bark

Registration includes the Walk for the Animals, Family Festival and official T-shirt

Adults: \$25 | Children ages 4-15: \$5 | Children 3 years and younger: FREE



Come! Play! Sit! Stay!

- Amazing free-style performances by the Purina® Incredible Dog Team
- Pet contests to show off your pooch's greatest talents
- Serenity the Llama, Twister the Miracle Horse and other Barn Buddies from Longmeadow Rescue Ranch
- Sandwiches, kettle corn and more at our Festival Food Court
- Autographs from event mascot G.I. Joe at his "celebrity tent"
- Face painting, balloon animals, inflatable activities and more

**Raise money for the animals
and earn great prizes!**



- \$25+**
Official Bark in the Park T-Shirt
(\$5 for children 15 and under)
- \$90+**
Limited edition Bark in the Park
Camelbak Reusable Water Bottle
- Top Prize: \$5000+**
Canon Power Shot SX40 HS
12.1 Megapixel Digital Camera
OR an Apple iPad OR
\$500 Humane Society of Missouri
Gift Card
(You Choose!)

*For more information and a full list
of prizes, visit hsmo.org/bark.*

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for DOGSSM**

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\$90 worth of dimes?**

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Call 314-951-1547 for
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Thank you for
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the animals.



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generous sponsors**



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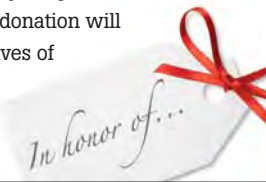
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New Website Helps Find Lost Pets



A collaboration of:
Animal Protective
Association of Missouri
St. Louis County Animal
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of Missouri

The Humane Society of Missouri, the Animal Protective Association of Missouri and St. Louis County Animal Care & Control have launched a website to reunite lost pets with their owners. STLLOstPets.org lists stray/found animals at all their locations and provides helpful information for anyone who has lost a pet or found one.

If a pet is missing, the site allows people to search for found animals with databases updated hourly. Owners can submit a report for a lost pet; likewise, people who've found a pet can use the "Found Pet Resources" portion of the website.

"Our three organizations handle 90% of all stray and unwanted animals in the St. Louis area," noted Kathy Warnick, HSMO president. "The more you search, the greater your chances of a happy reunion with your lost pet," she said. "Check back often and don't give up hope."



Tips for Finding a Pet

- Each pet needs a collar, tag and microchip. About the size of a grain of rice, a microchip is implanted between a pet's shoulder blades. Its unique serial number is entered into a national database along with your name and contact information.
- Call the Humane Society of Missouri Veterinary Contact Center at 314-951-1534 for an appointment to have your pet microchipped.

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