

Humane Society of Missouri

Tails

Summer 2018



PROVIDING SECOND CHANCES TO ANIMALS SINCE 1870

New Service Helps Pets Far and Wide

Women's Leadership Council Supports Shelter Pet Transfer Program

THE GOOD NEWS: HSMO's adoption centers have vacancies.

Low-cost spay/neuter programs pioneered two decades ago by HSMO and more recently replicated by other organizations have resulted in a significant decrease in shelter animal intake in our region.



(above) HSMO regularly travels to out-state Missouri shelters to bring dogs to St. Louis, improving their chances for forever homes. (top) Transferred from an outstate shelter, Kazoo has found his forever home!

The not as good news: Shelters in other parts of Missouri and the U.S. remain overcrowded.

More good news: HSMO's Shelter Pet Transfer Program brings adoptable animals to St. Louis from outstate Missouri and southern and southwestern states where shelters have limited space or spay/neuter programs are not prevalent.

"Fortunately, we have the extra space and, with the help of our Women's Leadership Council, the resources to give even more homeless animals their second chances for loving forever homes," said Kathy Warnick, HSMO president.

Some animals come to HSMO, notably with volunteer transport help, from a group of Louisiana shelters.

continued on page 3





**70 DEGREES
AND OVER
DON'T TAKE
ROVER!**




If you see an animal locked in a parked car or in heat-related distress, contact your local police and the Animal Cruelty Hotline.

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Directory

Websites

hsmo.org
longmeadowrescueranch.org
amcma.org
STLLostPets.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
Best Buddy Center 314-951-1588
Kuehner 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.

Animal Medical Center of Mid-America

All locations 314-951-1534

Patients seen by appointment

St. Louis City Center, Kuehner Center,

Best Buddy Center hours

Mon.-Thurs. 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m.
Fri. 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
Sat. 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.
Sun. CLOSED

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
Best Buddy Center – 11660 Administration Dr.,
Maryland Heights, MO 63146
Kuehner Center Chesterfield Valley –
17357 Edison Ave., Chesterfield, MO 63005
Longmeadow Rescue Ranch –
480 Josephs Rd., Union, MO 63084
All locations closed major holidays.

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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.

The Humane Society of Missouri is an independent, non-profit organization not affiliated with any national animal welfare organizations. We do not receive tax support or United Way funding. We rely on the generosity of individuals, corporations, foundations and fees for services.

Others are brought to St. Louis by Humane Society staff who regularly work with outstate Missouri shelters. Each pet is examined, treated, spayed or neutered, and placed for adoption. As a result, more than 9,400 animals found new homes through HSMO shelters last year.

Enthusiastically selecting this program, the Women's Leadership Council has set as its 2018 goal to raise \$130,000 to underwrite Shelter Pet Transfer Program expenses. Past WLC fundraising projects have included the Animal Cruelty Fund, shelter veterinary costs, separate kennel areas for rescued animals and the purchase of a rescue transport vehicle.

"We are so very fortunate to have this group of savvy, goal-oriented, dedicated professionals working with us," said Warnick. "Our unique partnership is helping provide the joy of pet companionship to thousands."

Humane Society of Missouri's

WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

The Women's Leadership Council (WLC) was formed in 2006 as both a networking and fundraising group. Its signature event is the annual Purses for Pooches & Pals fundraiser attended by 450 women who share common interests in animal welfare and forming new connections.

For more information or to join WLC, visit hsmo.org/wlc or call 314-951-1542.

Mark Your Calendar

Purses & Pumps for Pooches & Pals

A benefit to support the Animal Cruelty Fund

JUNE
21

Best Buddy Center
6-8 p.m.
Sponsored by the
Women's Leadership
Council

Great Forest Park Balloon Race Balloon Glow Charity Dinner

Benefitting the Humane Society of Missouri

SEPT
14

Art Hill
Forest Park

Tributes and Memorials to People and Pets

Donations given as tributes or memorials to friends or pets are listed on our website hsmo.org. You may make a secure online donation in tribute or memorial or download a form to send us.

To find out more: contact hbrand@hsmo.org or call 314-951-1542.

Longmeadow

Not Horsing Around: Twister Learns to Paint

Twist of Fate (Twister to his fans and friends) has taken up a paint brush and canvas as a hobby.

"We didn't know if it was possible but we all agreed that he was a likely candidate and it would be awesome if he could do it," said nine-year ranch volunteer Mary Lou Spellmeyer.

In January, she brought a canvas into Twister's stall and waited for him to touch it with his nose. Then he got a treat. "He thought it was great fun," commented Spellmeyer.

"At times he is so enthusiastic that he is grabbing for the paint brush as we are putting color on it," she said. "Other times he takes the brush in his mouth, lets it dangle for ten seconds or so, then drops it." Spellmeyer and her fellow volunteers Laura Hudd, Roberta Joachimstaler and Mary Loveland are nurturing Twister's inner artist. They pointed out that he's never forced to paint and his acrylics are animal-safe.

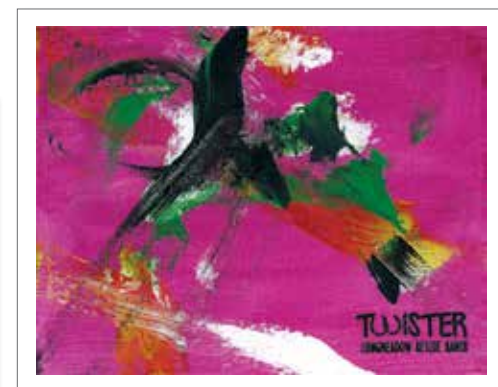
The team decides what colors he will be using, but Twister chooses which of those colors to start with. He obliges by touching his nose to his selection.

His black, white and red canvases are favorites of staff and volunteers. "We all see something different in them," said Spellmeyer, "along the lines of Rorschach ink blots." Long-term ranch volunteer Kay Tomlinson, however, sees a similarity to the pre-historic paintings in the caves at Lascaux.

Twister was born on the ranch in 2007. His mother was pregnant when she was rescued from an overturned tractor/trailer. A miscarriage was predicted, but against the odds, "Mama" delivered a healthy colt. His formal name "Twist of Fate" fits not only his extraordinary arrival but also the lightning bolt-shaped marking on his forehead.

In addition to painting, he happily assists in the training arena with skittish rescued horses. He's one of the stars of the ranch's Barn Buddies. His book *Twist of Fate: The Miracle Colt and His Friends* has brought his story to thousands of children.

Twister might not be a great artist (yet), but for sure, he is a great big artist.



Meet Twister and view and purchase his artwork during open houses at Longmeadow Rescue Ranch every Friday noon-3p.m. and Saturday 11a.m.-3p.m. His book is in the gift shop. For times and directions: longmeadowrescueranch.org.

Best Buddy Memorial Park

The newly opened Best Buddy Memorial Park is a spectacular space for pups and people.

Located adjacent to HMSO's Best Buddy Pet Center in Maryland Heights, the park is a generous space for shelter dogs to walk and romp. Its fenced area provides a safe place for off-leash fun.

The park has benches, beautiful trees, a drinking station for dogs and people, and shade sails for shelter from the sun. To top it all off, a specially designed pavilion is available for picnics.

Please visit **hsmo.org** for a list of memorial and tribute opportunities including memorial pavers, at the Best Buddy Memorial Park in Maryland Heights or the Carol Gates Throop Memorial Park on Macklind Avenue.



Volunteers

They're the Cat's Meow!

"Nirvana for the cat lover," said Cat Enrichment volunteer Jeff Demerath about spending time with shelter cats and kittens.

"When I first started volunteering, some kittens were sharing a big area. I went in and they crawled all over me, purring and playing."

Demerath recently retired from law practice and as a member of the Humane Society of Missouri's Board of Directors. He investigated volunteer opportunities and, since he's always had one or two cats, he decided in favor of Cat Enrichment. At times his post-retirement travels take him away from home, then he's on a "pet break."

"But it's tough," he admitted. "Every time I volunteer, I see cats I want to take home. One day there was a cuddly cat that fell asleep in my arms."



Jeff Demerath, Jeannie Lange (left) and Jean Billingsley meet every Friday for cat enrichment. "We call ourselves the Three Musketeers."

Playtime and cat cuddles enrich shelter cats while they await their forever homes. But the job isn't all cat play. Volunteers help clean cages and make sure pets have food, water and toys. They also interact with visitors who might want a purry ball of fur.

"We ask what personality they are looking for and are able to suggest specific cats because of the time we spend with them. I really feel I am doing something valuable," he said. "I encourage people to come in and do it. It's great!"

To learn about the Cat Enrichment program or other volunteer opportunities, go to **hsmo.org/volunteer**



From food to litter, we're proud
to support the pets of
the Humane Society of Missouri.



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Fear-Free Vet Visits

ASK THE VET



Dr. Kelly Ryan, director, Animal Medical Center of Mid-America



QUESTION

My pets get so nervous when we go to veterinarian appointments. Is there anything I can do, or medications they can take, to make vet visits easier for everyone?

Dr. Ryan: It is understandable that some pets get scared when they go to the veterinarian. I can't think of many people who enjoy doctor visits either! Fortunately, there are a few things we are doing at AMCMA, and some things you can do as well, to make visits more enjoyable.

We have found that calming pheromones, like Feliway® for cats and Adaptil® for dogs, help pets tremendously. We place a Feliway diffuser in our feline exam rooms, and when dogs come to visit, we give them a bandana that has been sprayed with Adaptil. The pheromones are odorless to humans and animals of other species, but they help dogs and cats feel more relaxed. You might consider purchasing a pheromone spray or collar for your dog and a diffuser to help your cat before your appointment. The pheromones can be purchased without a prescription at any AMCMA location and work best if used for a couple of weeks ahead of your appointment.

You can also help your pet associate trips to the vet with fun by coming to AMCMA for a happy visit. Stop by so your pet can meet our staff and have some yummy treats! Another tip — it helps if you remain calm and relaxed. Pets pick up on our emotions, so if you are anxious, your pet will be more anxious. Staying relaxed will help your pet feel reassured.

If these suggestions don't seem to be enough, talk to your veterinarian about possible medications that might help your pet feel better during vet visits.

The Animal Medical Center of Mid-America is a division of the Humane Society of Missouri. To make an appointment at one of AMCMA's three locations, call 314.951.1534 or visit amcma.org.



Wish List (In-Kind Donations)

Cats and dogs at our three Adoption Centers need new or gently used toys.

If you can help, drop them off when it's convenient. (See page 2 for addresses and hours.) Thank you for helping the animals while they wait for their Second Chances.

- **Enrichment toys for dogs (Nylabone, Kong, Busy Bones)**
- **Cat toys (no catnip, please)**

 **Go Online**

For a complete wish list, visit
hsmo.org/donate or
longmeadowrescueranch.org/donate



Humane Society of Missouri
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hsmo.org



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INSIDE

Your Donations at Work
WLC Supports Shelter Pet Transport

Longmeadow Rescue Ranch
Twister: The Thoroughbred Artist

Volunteers
They're the Cat's Meow!



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St. Louis City Animal
Care and Control
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- Bandages, antibiotics and other other medication



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telethon



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www.hsmo.org/telethon