



WINTER 2012

ENRICHMENT	2
HOLIDAY GALA	2
ENHANCING THE SHELTER.....	3
VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT	4
LONELY HEARTS CLUB	4
EARLENE'S NEW LIFE	5
WINTER TIPS	5
EXTREME MAKEOVER.....	6
FRILLS FOR FURBABIES	7
MARK YOUR CALENDAR	8



STRAY RESCUE OF SAINT LOUIS
RESCUE NEWS
 Devoted to the welfare of animals everywhere

FROM THE DESK OF RANDY GRIM



2011 brought many difficult challenges, and it lifts my spirits to think about how together we overcame each and every challenge with compassion and strength. It warms my heart to know that Stray Rescue continues to shine more brightly than ever as a beacon of hope to homeless companion animals.

We have seen a record number of intensely upsetting abuse and neglect cases, but instead of becoming disheartened many in our community have rallied to fight such cruelty. In the face of tons of expensive emergency surgeries, selfless donors have come forward to encourage an unprecedented display of giving to save more lives. Though the winter is always so tough on us, especially with donations decreasing in the first few months of the year along with the temperature, the determination of the amazing volunteers, fosters, supporters, and staff makes anything possible.

There's a lot to look forward to this year. We are continuing to ramp up community outreach and work with the city to build animal abuse cases against malicious people but also to lend a helping hand to those who want to see change in their neighborhoods. This year we're also focusing on enrichment for shelter dogs, as well as construction on the shelter to make it an even better place for all our four-legged friends.

We've come a long way, but there's still so much to be done. Though the callousness of people weighs heavy on the mind, my mantra continues to be, "everything being done is for the dogs... always for the dogs." We have created a unique approach to rescuing and sheltering that embodies patience and compassion, and that is something to truly be proud of. I offer a heartfelt thank you for your endless support, and remember to stay informed regularly by signing up for our e-newsletters at StrayRescue.org.

Love and Woof!
Randy Grim
 Founder/Director

A STAR IS BORN... and she will be a spokesdog for shelter animals everywhere

Searching through hundreds upon hundreds of inspiring, heartfelt essays entered into the inaugural Star Rescue Billboard and PSA Contest was no easy task for our celebrity guest judges, KSDK's Julie Tristan, the St. Louis Post-Dispatch's Deb Peterson, and KMOX's Debbie Monterrey.

Essays were read over and over again to narrow down a winner from the incredible pool of entries. There were humorous essays and heart wrenching ones. There were essays about amazing therapy dogs, essays about dogs rescuing people in danger, and essays about true companionship and enduring love. Even essays hand-written by young children!

However, only one winner could be chosen, and that essay spoke of loss, fate, and the true message of how a rescued dog can lift the spirit and enrich a life. The winning essay told of a homeless dog, Wheezy, in desperate need of a guardian, but also of a man, Patrick, in great need of a truly loving and comforting companion. Here is an excerpt from the essay...

There is a reason I remember the exact day we found each other. My little brother died unexpectedly on Sunday December 6, 2009. As stated, Wheezy found me 364 days

after his passing. Our first whole day together was the first anniversary of his death. The vet told me she was approximately one year old the day we met. You do the math.

Thank you to each and every person who took the time and care to tell the story of his or her rescue dog. This certainly won't be the last time Stray Rescue has a billboard and PSA contest, so stay tuned for future opportunities! Congratulations to Patrick and, of course, to Wheezy, who is now featured on billboards in downtown St. Louis and will very soon be seen on public service announcements.

Be on the lookout for a book featuring these touching, humorous, and heartfelt essays sometime in 2012, with all proceeds benefitting the homeless dogs of Stray Rescue!



Wheezy, winner of the billboard and PSA contest, encourages the adoption of shelter animals.

ANONYMOUS DONOR PROMPTS UNPRECEDENTED GIVING DURING HOLIDAY SEASON

Donations intended to save abused and neglected companion animals flooded in from supporters both nationally and internationally after an anonymous foundation vowed to match up to \$100,000 in funds donated to our emergency medical fund in early October.

The fund, referred to as The Stracks Fund in honor of a dog who survived horrific abuse, has been bolstered by an awe-inspiring display of community giving that occurred throughout the campaign resulting in nearly \$350,000.

"I am deeply touched by the outpouring of support and overwhelmed by the foundation's generosity," said Randy Grim, Founder of Stray Rescue. "We asked the community to

unite around our sick and dying four-legged friends, but I never dreamed it would be this successful!"

Because donations typically decline during the first few months of the year, donations from this matching gift campaign will be stretched thin throughout the winter. However, the impact of



Dr. Rooney works to stabilize Super Simon

CREATIVE ENRICHMENT LEADS TO HAPPY, ADOPTABLE DOGS

We at Stray Rescue have always known that one of the keys to finding more warm and loving homes for dogs starts immediately after they are rescued from the harsh streets. Once a dog is brought into the shelter and cared for medically, the behavioral rehabilitation process really begins, with a strong enrichment program being top priority.

Our growing training and behavior department is creative, caring, and patient, all essential qualities when it comes to making sure our beloved pooches are as content as possible in the shelter while they await a forever home. The Stray Rescue trainers go above and beyond with a unique and comprehensive enrichment program built on a case-by-case basis for each dog, ensuring they are socialized, exercised (both physically and mentally) and, ultimately, more likely to get adopted.

Trips to the agility courses, long walks in the park, rides in the car, and even lunch at local pet-friendly restaurants are just a handful of activities we encourage for the dogs. The trainers also have an ever-changing roster of dogs who are more prone to anxiety, and they have special enrichment programs to make sure all their needs are met.



Check out two of our most popular, fun-filled enrichment programs that are a blast for both dogs AND people...

THE STRAY RESCUE HIKING PROGRAM was started by a dear friend to Stray Rescue and a friend to critters everywhere, Donna McCall. Her mission is to introduce adoptable dogs to individuals through hiking experiences with the canines from Stray Rescue. All of the dogs are great as outdoor partners for anyone who loves to hike, backpack, trail run... whatever!



The dogs travel with the hikers to trails in all four directions. They come in colors of black, red, white and yellow, which happen to be the colors representing the four cardinal directions in American Indian culture. Thus the name Four Directions Hiking! Visit FourDirectionsHiking.com to learn more and see some awesome pictures of the dogs' adventures.



THE STRAY RESCUE RUNNING BUDDIES PROGRAM

makes a difference in the lives of companion animals by ensuring they get plenty of exercise, socialization, and attention, which ultimately makes them more adoptable. Perfect for everyone, from those who are easing into their newfound workout routine to seasoned marathon runners looking to liven up their training, motivation to get fit is never a problem when you know your walking/jogging pooch partner is waiting.

Simply visit Stray Rescue's Pine Street shelter any day of the week, sign in, "check out" your buddy at the front desk, and you're off and running (weather permitting)! Stray Rescue is organizing a team to represent the pups at the 2012 GO! St. Louis Marathon! Don't miss out on this unique, fun, and healthy way to make a huge difference. Go to StayRescue.org to learn more or contact Jason Schipkowski at jason@strayrescue.org for more information.

RECAP: 14TH ANNUAL HOPE FOR THE HOLIDAYS GALA

The 14th Annual Hope for the Holidays Gala took place at The Moto Museum on December 2nd, 2011, and it was the biggest and best yet! Records were being broke left and right, namely nearly \$40,000 was raised for the strays and over 300 people were in attendance! The atmosphere was warm and

celebratory – a fitting environment for a group so dedicated to the welfare of companion animals. Thank you to everyone who made it possible for us all to rejoice in the lives we have saved and give hope to those who are still on the streets awaiting their second chance at a life filled with comfort and warmth.



From Left to Right - Mayor Francis Slay, Randy Grim, Director of Health Pamela Walker



From Left to Right - Stars of the show, Wheezy, Stracks, Our Little Girl



From Left to Right - Barb Bagby, Randy Grim, Melissa Tessmer, Actress Elaine Hendrix

NEW SHELTER CONSTRUCTION EXCITES DOGS AND HUMANS ALIKE

There's so many exciting things happening this year at Stray Rescue, and one of them is improving our flagship shelter at 2320 Pine Street. There's still a lot of construction left to do before it becomes the dream shelter we all planned for about two years ago, but with the community's help we will get there one step at a time.

Our immediate goal is to build out the lobby area, which will consist of the waiting, reception, and retail areas. We're also focusing on the first floor bathrooms and, for those who have toiled many days and nights helping with shelter shifts, we are pretty sure we can hear the unanimous cheers from here.

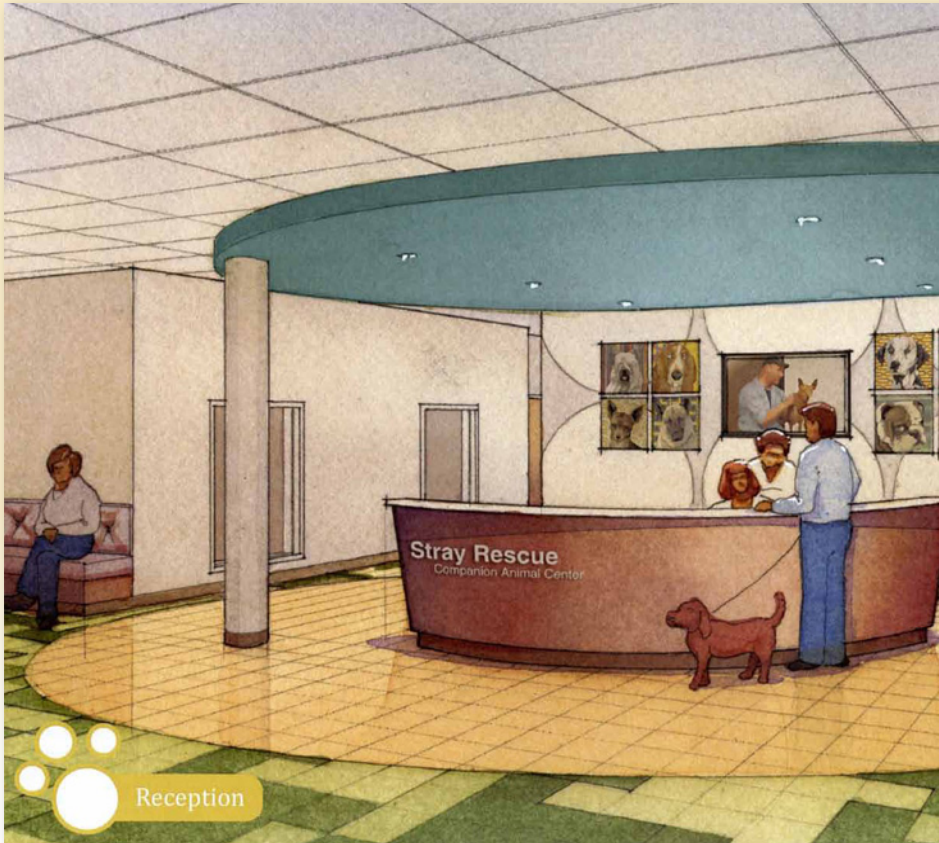
What these much-needed enhancements will do is make the shelter much more functional and, we hope, increase adoptions. Having a lobby area that is separate from the parts of the shelter where dogs are cared for will lessen the stress of the dogs and make the entire adoption experience even more highly organized and enjoyable for those looking for a lovable companion. Of course, with the bathrooms, well... a "relieved" volunteer is a happy volunteer and that can only benefit the dogs!

However, when talking about construction, funding is typically (and unfortunately) the first place we must start. It will take an estimated \$500,000 to finish the shelter and make it the ideal place for our furry friends. If you would like to leave your lasting mark on the shelter in the form of building naming rights, there are still options available, from the inexpensive to the more substantial. For more information please contact Jason Schipkowski at 314.771.6121 ext: 264 or email him at jason@strayrescue.org. Another great way to help the dogs is to order a memorial brick for our sidewalk, also at the Pine Street facility. It's the perfect way to honor a loved one – two or four-legged! A link to the order form may be accessed from the home page of the Stray Rescue website, StrayRescue.org.

With all this talk about what's new and the future of a shelter that has seen thousands of dogs rehabilitating and adopted into loving homes, it only seems appropriate to reflect on where it all started. Here's a note on the beginning of it all; the 18th Street shelter in Lafayette Square, which just recently got a makeover of its own...

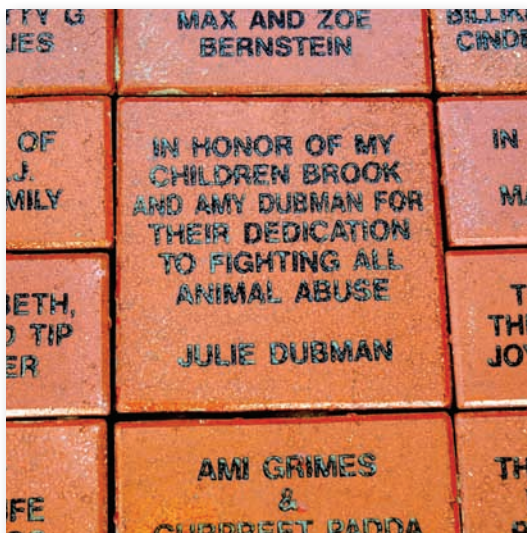
In 1997 Randy saw a small warehouse for sale, and back then Lafayette Square was not the "cool" place it is today. It was riddled with stray dogs, packs of dogs, junkyards, and the old City Hospital and Malcolm Bliss Mental Hospital. Property values were low, Stray Rescue was just Randy Rescue, and Randy purchased the 18th Street brick building using all of his savings, which wasn't much. It had no air conditioning, no water, and no heat.

Randy wore a miners hat and got to work, not knowing that a person can't just set up shop for the homeless dogs without permits and such... he just wanted to help the poor stray dogs. Of course he learned the hard way and went without to make the building livable for the dogs. What was created in 1998 stayed the same until recently. With the support of the long-awaited city donation money, the 18th Street shelter is now the shelter he always dreamed it would be... and with a brand new puppy room to boot! The dogs at 18th street are dancing!



Reception

The future of the Pine Street shelter



Memorial bricks outside of the Pine Street shelter



The 18th Street shelter after improvements

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Bolstering a Compassionate Community Through The SIP Program



Lonely Hearts Club



ORACLE: Oracle has been at Stray Rescue almost as long as our Pine Street shelter has been open. She was rescued from a fire escape that was her 'home'. Oracle does seem to get overlooked despite her very happy and bouncy personality. She would love to brighten up your life if given the chance she deserves.



WOJO: Wojo is another handsome boy who has been passed by, and we just can't understand why! He loves an active lifestyle that would include long walks and car rides. He likes to relax on a couch and would do well in a home with an easy going dog, just no cats. Wojo also likes to play with older children. If this sounds like your family, apply today!



From Left to Right: Andrea Schwartz and Deanna Sanvi, shining stars in the SIP program, with Pluteau

Volunteers Deanna Sanvi and Andrea Schwartz have been helping Stray Rescue and companion animals since 2008 and 2010 respectively. Deanna started out as a foster parent over three years ago, and then started volunteering at events and doing shelter shifts when the Pine Street shelter opened its doors in 2010. Similarly, Andrea began volunteering at the Pine Street facility shortly after it opened as well.

Since then, they have found their niche in the Shelter in Place (SIP) program. This program provides medical/health care to the pets of low-income families and individuals who have shown a commitment to keeping their companion(s) but do not have the financial means to do so.

These two inspiring volunteers said it best:

"The SIP program combines two critical components that have not been implemented in the city before now. First, it attempts to prevent pets from becoming strays or neglected through coordination of vet care and other resources for families who want to do the right things for their pets but may have a lack of knowledge or limited access to pet-related resources. Secondly, SIP promotes positive change in the communities through education and outreach. A significant amount of focus is placed on building trust with pet guardians and an emphasis on developing positive relationships with not only the SIP participants, but the entire community.

Encouraging responsible pet ownership is key - one family, one block, one neighborhood at a time. We believe that the SIP program promotes change - starting with the citizens and meeting them where they are at - in their homes, in their neighborhoods. Both of us are St. Louis City residents

invested in what happens within our city. While working with city residents in our professional careers (Deanna, a nurse and Andrea, a social worker), we are familiar with the needs and challenges of their everyday lives. It's very easy for us to switch hats and transfer our focus to their pets while still maintaining an understanding of how their human circumstances impact their pets lives."

So how did these tremendous assets to the community come to find Stray Rescue? Deanna adopted her first dog from Stray Rescue in 2000, and that companion is now 14. Deanna had always wanted to foster, but wasn't sure if she could handle it from an emotional standpoint. However, she finally took the plunge in 2008 and now says she couldn't handle NOT fostering. She started shelter shifts when Stray Rescue's census quadrupled with the opening of the Pine Street facility. "I have made so many good friends (dog and human) through Stray Rescue," said Deanna. "I do the Sunday morning shift with some of the greatest volunteers ever, and Andrea is one of them!"

As for Andrea, she was initially inspired by Stray Rescue's efforts after reading *The Man Who Talks to Dogs*. "As a pet guardian, I immediately knew that was the organization I wanted to support," said Andrea. She and her husband have been financial contributors since that time, but she felt it was time to do more. She started volunteering for the Sunday morning shift at Pine Street when it opened in 2010, and since then she says she has "crossed paths with the most amazing dogs, the absolute best volunteers, and extremely dedicated staff. Our teamwork continues to inspire me."

Deanna and Andrea have earned a resounding, much-deserved thank you and WOOF!

A NEW LIFE THROUGH THE EYES OF EARLENE

My day started in the usual way. I woke up hungry, cold, and alone. I was getting so tired of waking up that way; so tired of constantly feeling so empty and wondering if anyone would ever come to comfort me. I don't need much, just a little food and water, a warm place to rest - and a warm person to snuggle up with would be heaven. The immense love and joy I have to give was wasted on that filthy, damp house, littered with so much stuff... and none of it edible. Little did I know on that fateful day my life was about to change dramatically.

I wasn't having much luck finding anything to eat, so I headed back to my "home." As I went inside, I heard someone talking to me. Cautiously, I crept out onto the porch and, sure enough, there was someone there... and she had **FOOD!**

Never knowing who I could trust and driven by hunger, I carefully ate up all that was given to me. When I had my fill, I made my way down the hall and jumped up on the dilapidated mattress covered with insulation and drywall that I called a bed. My

belly was finally somewhat full, but I was still so miserable because I had no hair and my skin was infected and calloused. I had that look of defeat in my eyes that so many other street dogs have.

It wasn't long after I flopped down on the mattress that



Earlene's former "home" on the streets

that same person who gave me food came in and gently picked me up. I was exhausted and she was so warm and seemed so kind, I didn't struggle at all. She carried me outside and, shortly after, I was given a nice, warm bath, more food, and a wonderfully comfy, clean bed to lay on. For so long this is what I had been waiting for - **it DOES exist!**

Now every day is a good day. I always have food, and a cozy place to sleep. I have friends and am learning how great it is to trust and play.

All my new friends call me Earlene. It's time for me to start my new life, and I am ready!

Looking for a way to make an immediate, direct impact on tough medical cases like Earlene? Donate to The Stracks Fund today online at StrayRescue.org or by sending donations to 2320 Pine Street, St. Louis, MO, 63103. No donation is too small. Without your support, we truly couldn't save these lives.



Earlene devouring a much-needed meal

TIPS FOR KEEPING PETS SAFE AND WARM DURING THE WINTER

Winter weather can be very dangerous for our furry friends, but by taking a few simple precautions you can make sure your pet is the picture of health when spring comes. Here are some safety tips for when the thermometer dips!

- Never leave your dog or cat alone in a car during cold weather. A car can act as a refrigerator in the winter, holding in the cold and causing the animal to freeze to death.
- Antifreeze and similar products are attractive to pets but are lethal poisons for dogs and cats, even in very small amounts. Keep pets away from these solutions, and consider using products that contain propylene glycol rather than ethylene glycol.
- Do not leave your pets outdoors unattended when the temperature gets below freezing. Pets that are mostly indoors need time to adapt to cold temperatures. They must build up a thicker coat and get their footpads toughened for snow and ice. Pets that get too chilled can develop hypothermia or even frostbite. Ear tips are especially susceptible to frostbite.
- If your dog frequently lifts up his or her paws, whines, or stops during walks, his or her feet may be uncomfortably cold. Dogs with long fur on the bottom of their paws often develop ice balls between the pads and toes. To prevent this from happening trim the hair around your dog's feet and consider applying a small amount of non-toxic lubricant or oil, such as Vaseline or cooking oil.
- Make sure your companion animal has a warm place to sleep, off the floor and away from all drafts. A cozy dog or cat bed with a warm blanket or pillow is perfect.
- Thoroughly wipe off companion animals' legs and stomach when they come inside from the sleet, ice or snow. They can ingest salt, antifreeze, or other potentially dangerous chemicals while licking their paws.
- Many animals are less active during the winter and don't burn as many calories as in the warmer months. Consider reducing your pet's diet during the winter, to avoid excessive weight gain. You may wish to consult with your veterinarian about the right winter food portions for your pet.
- Never let your dog off the leash on snow or ice, especially during a snowstorm, dogs can lose their scent and easily become lost. More dogs are lost during the winter than during any other season, so make sure they always wear ID tags and are microchipped.
- Most cats prefer to spend their winter days indoors; be cautious if your cat likes being outside. Don't let them out in bitterly cold weather, and be sure they have a warm place to go if they do spend a significant time outdoors. Remember to be conscientious when starting the engine of your car. Outdoor cats sometimes find warmth under the hoods of cars during the winter and this can be dangerous for them.

STRAY RESCUE EXTREME MAKEOVER

Nivea was rescued with her brother, Toupee. They had no hair and had calloused, infected skin from severe mange and malnutrition. A concerned citizen was able to contain them both until we could get there to rescue them. These two sweet siblings were always together and had been out on the street for quite a while before we were able to save them. Nivea is now in a foster home and awaiting her forever home.

Nova was rescued in East St. Louis when Randy and Donna spotted him on a side street while they were on their way to check on another injured dog. Even from a distance they could tell he was far from healthy. He was very skinny and missing most of his hair. Initially he was so scared he wouldn't even think about approaching them and making friends, even with hotdogs as an incentive. Randy and Donna set up a trap and within minutes he was safe and sound with Stray Rescue. Nova has since made an awe-inspiring recovery and has been adopted into his perfect loving home!



Nivea - Before



Nivea - After



Nova - Before



Nova - After

Anonymous Donor...

(continued from page 1)

the gift from the anonymous donor and those who answered their call cannot be understated. The harsh Midwest winter is tremendously dangerous for homeless animals and results in many critical cases. Pair the extreme cold weather with an increased pattern of severe abuse and neglect, and it is evident that this campaign has been instrumental in saving many more lives.



Horizon

"Our dream was that the St Louis community would rally together to match our \$100,000.00, and we are proud to say that the animal lovers in the St Louis area made our dream come true," wrote a representative of the anonymous foundation in a public letter. "We would like to thank all the wonderful people and corporations that made our dream a reality by donating, even in these hard economic times."

Grim said that the manner in which businesses, corporations, foundations, including the PETCO Foundation, and individuals came together gives Stray Rescue so much hope. We spend approximately \$150,000 every month on emergency medical bills, so it requires constant attention to ensure uninterrupted emergency care for the thousands of animals we rescue each year.

As Stray Rescue continues efforts to provide the best emergency care possible, we will continue to focus on community outreach and education in order to actively work towards a lasting resolution to the homeless companion animal problem. Though the campaign was officially over after December 30, we are hopeful that another donor will follow suit in order to get the organization through to spring.

About The Stracks Fund:

During the harsh 2011 winter, Randy Grim came across Stracks, a dog he had been feeding on the streets. Stracks was near death. He had suffered as a bait dog and was abandoned after enduring gunshot wounds, a slit throat, a severed ear, life threatening skin, tissue, and muscle disease, extreme malnourishment, and heartworms. Stracks underwent intensive treatment for over a month. He traveled far down his road to recovery and is one of the gentlest and loving dogs we have ever saved in spite of the abuse he went through. This miraculous story motivated people from all over the country and even internationally to donate to Stracks' medical costs.

The story of Stracks is a commentary on our violent society but, more importantly, also proves the kindness within people and their ability to rally as a compassionate community when a stray is in dire need. The Stracks Fund is synonymous with hope, responsibility, inspiration, and unconditional care for companion animals. Through The Stracks Fund, our in-shelter trauma center is able to save many lives every week.

FRILLS FOR FURBABIES DRIVE KEEPS TAILS WAGGING THROUGH WINTER

Stop by KolbeCo Marketing Resources and you might be surprised to find that humans are not the only creatures you come in contact with. KolbeCo is a dog-friendly public relations and marketing firm that not only allows – but encourages – staff members to bring their four-legged companions to the office, many of which are Stray Rescue adoptees and fosters.

Knowing how quickly supplies at the shelter deplete, foster parent and employee Erin Celuch approached the team at KolbeCo about a donation drive, and Frills for Furbabies was born, along with the Board of Dogrectors, KolbeCo's four-legged team members.

The Frills for Furbabies drive is primarily geared toward getting physical donations for immediate use at the shelter. The goal is to provide donors with a list of items that would not necessarily require them to purchase something new, but to look at items around the house that might no longer be of use.

Frills then partnered with several locally owned dog-friendly businesses in St. Louis, St. Charles, and the Metro East, providing a total of twelve locations for participants to be able to drop off or purchase items to donate to the drive. To further their efforts, the Frills team created two corporate programs, the “Canine Corporate Challenge” and “Casual Day for a Stray” to enable local businesses to help support the cause.

Having recently completed its third annual drive, Frills gained momentum and local media support. Teamed with supporting partners, and successful “Casual Day for a Stray” and “Canine Corporate Challenge” participants, Frills for Furbabies reached its goal of \$10,000 in donation items, and raised \$1,200 to benefit The Stracks Fund!

Special thanks to Treats Unleashed, Four Muddy Paws, Lola & Penelope's, Airedale Antics, Wolfgang's Pet Stop, Three Dog Bakery, WestInn Kennels, Continental REO, Wamhoff Financial Planning and Accounting Services, Ameren Energy Marketing, Charter Media St. Charles, St. Luke's Rehabilitation Hospital, and Riggs Construction and Design, and all of you who supported Frills!



Board of Dogrectors keeping watch over donations



L to R/Back Row: Tabitha Meyer (KolbeCo), Lynn Miller (KolbeCo), Mike Klevorn (KolbeCo), Randy Grim, Bill Riggs (Riggs Construction and Design)
L to R/Front Row: Lauren Kolbe (KolbeCo), Erin Celuch (KolbeCo), Amie Riggs-Swartz (Riggs Construction and Design)



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LEAVE A LIVING LEGACY

Remembering Stray Rescue in your will or estate planning will help ensure that we continue to grow and expand. Planned gifts leave behind a living legacy of compassion, as your gift will be helping to end the suffering for many animals. These gifts not only help the animals, but also can help you meet your financial, tax and estate planning goals. Consulting an attorney who specializes in estate planning may be of great assistance to you. When remembering Stray Rescue, please make sure to use the following language in your will or estate plans:

Stray Rescue of Saint Louis
2320 Pine Street
St. Louis, MO 63103-2219
Tax ID # 43-1823801

Thank you for considering Stray Rescue in your will or estate planning. For more information, see our website at:

www.strayrescue.org/content/donations

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Stray Rescue Running Buddies' GO! St. Louis Marathon Weekend

When: Sunday, April 15 **Where: Downtown St. Louis**

Represent Stray Rescue and the Running Buddies Enrichment Program by running (or cheering) in the GO! St. Louis Marathon! This is the perfect way to meet a personal milestone while raising much-needed funding for training and behavior programs and spreading the word about adoptable shelter pets. Visit StrayRescue.org or email jason@strayrescue.org for information on how to participate!

7th Annual Spring for Strays

When: Sunday, May 6, 2 - 6p.m

Where: Harry's Restaurant and Bar, 2144 Market Street, St. Louis, MO 63103

Celebrate the change in seasons while lending a helping hand to homeless animals. Great silent and oral auctions, food, drinks, drag show, and raffles. Well-socialized dogs are welcome to attend. Admission is \$10. For more information, visit our calendar at StrayRescue.org.

Visit www.strayrescue.org and click on "Event Calendar" for more information, more events and adoption events.

Remember, you can meet our dogs available for adoption every weekend at area PetsMart, Petco and other locations. Check the event calendar on our website for locations and times.

Rescue News is produced three times a year by: Stray Rescue of Saint Louis, 2320 Pine Street, St. Louis, MO 63103-2219. Phone: 314-771-6121; website: www.strayrescue.org. Thank you to all the volunteers who donated their time to make the newsletter happen! Editor: Pat Matreci, Photographer: Donna Lochmann, Layout & Design: Michelle Zignago

Mission Statement: Stray Rescue's mission is to lead the way towards making St. Louis a compassionate city where every companion animal knows health, comfort, and affection, and no stray is euthanized merely because he or she has been abandoned or neglected. As part of our mission, Stray Rescue is out on the streets daily taking a progressive, proactive approach to establishing a permanent resolution to the stray companion animal problem through dedicated rescue efforts, sheltering, community outreach programs, education, collaborations, and the encouragement of responsible pet guardianship.