

Tracks

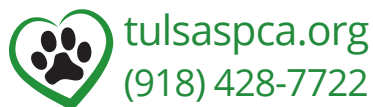


Winter 2018

The Tulsa Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Newsletter

We speak for those who cannot speak for themselves.

The Tulsa SPCA's mission is to improve the lives of dogs and cats, and their human companions.



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happy tails

Unconditional Love



Keith Kantner was dropping off health care supplies to the Tulsa SPCA, like he did most every week, when he met Lady. Brought to the clinic earlier that afternoon by a Good Samaritan who noticed her two broken legs, malnourishment and tick, flea and worm infestation, Lady caught Keith's attention. Because of all the animals needing care in the clinic that day, Keith conferred with the clinic staff and they agreed to let him contact his veterinary group to find out if they would see Lady. They agreed, and Keith headed across town with the injured dog.

Today, seven years after the chance encounter at the clinic, the cocker spaniel, chihuahua, dachshund mix once deemed the "medical disaster" is happy, healthy and at home with Keith and his two other dogs. Furthermore, after undergoing multiple surgeries

to fix her legs, she retains her outstanding personality—one Keith deemed as "the perfect dog"—and runs throughout the yard and house with no problems.

From chasing squirrels out of the yard, to playing with her indoor toys, chasing her Kong toys and laying in the sun, this one-time "medical disaster" is the perfect companion and addition to the Kantner family. From the kind gesture of a stranger who saw a dog in need of help to Keith's compassion, Lady is a shining example of the wonderful dogs that come to the Tulsa SPCA every day hoping to find their forever family.

Unplanned Perfection



Angelia Easterday didn't come in to work at the Tulsa SPCA that morning planning to adopt any more animals — she'd already welcomed her dog Nollie

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A Letter *from* Mindy



Dear Tulsa SPCA Patrons,

2018 was full of changes at the Tulsa SPCA. Our cat and kitten rooms received a much needed expansion and makeover, we broke ground on a new clinic, made improvements in our kennels, and purchased the building next door as we look to expand our operations in the coming years. We added staff dedicated to training and enrichment as well as staff to ensure the process from intake to placement is as efficient and effective as possible. We partnered with other local agencies, from municipal shelters to focused service providers for the benefit of the animals in our community.

Although the improvements we make are important, I want to share Wiley's story, because she is really why we are here and why we need your help to continue our work.

Wiley, a shepherd mix, was found running loose by a local police officer. She was familiar with Wiley's owner, a homeless woman. When the officer tried to return Wiley, she unfortunately found her owner deceased. Additionally, the officer found Wiley's nine puppies at the site. Wiley and her pups were transported to the Tulsa SPCA. It was initially a difficult transition for Wiley who was used to being loose and outside with her puppies all the time.

During the initial intake we discovered Wiley had heartworms and immediately began treatment. Additionally, Wiley and pups received vaccinations, microchips, spay/neuter surgeries, additional vetting and preventatives. After we separated

Wiley and the pups, there was another adjustment period requiring extra intervention from our trainer and staff. While the puppies found homes quickly, it was a little more difficult for Wiley. After a lot of work with staff, Wiley went home with a wonderful family almost two months to the day after she first arrived. Sadly, it was not to be. Her adopters had to return Wiley after their baby received a serious medical diagnosis. They assured us Wiley was great with small kids and other dogs, but it was more than they could take on after the diagnosis.

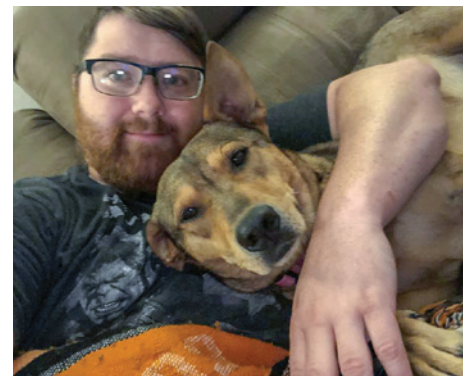
Wiley's next stop was a few weeks in a great foster home, learning to be more comfortable indoors. When she came back to the shelter, she was ready for a new, and hopefully, forever home. While waiting, we realized Wiley loved everyone and every dog she met, so we began taking her with us on school visits and to the Tulsa State Fair. It was at the fair where Wiley met the gentleman who fell in love with her and her history. I think it was mutual as Wiley gently laid in his lap as he sat on the floor to visit with her. Less than a week later, the adoption was finalized and Wiley is now in her new home. We sincerely hope this is the last stop for Wiley and that she'll finally get her happily ever after — but if not, we will be here to help her try again.

None of this is possible without the generosity of donors. Unfortunately donations are down this year. Because of you, the Tulsa SPCA has helped in our community for 105 years. Often people mistakenly believe we are

associated with a national agency, like the ASPCA (based in New York). In reality, the ASPCA had revenue of over \$230,000,000 in 2017 but the Tulsa SPCA only received \$5,000 from them (an approved grant request). That is .00002% of their revenue. While we appreciated that grant, support of that kind is never automatic. We hope you will choose to keep your support local where we can put your dollars to work in our community.

I know you have a choice about whom to support, and I know money is tight for people this year, but please consider digging a little deeper so we can continue to help the Wileys of our community. Thank you so much for helping us make a difference.

Mindy Tiner
Executive Director, Tulsa SPCA



Wiley is settled in her new home with Dillon, her adopter and new best friend.

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and cat Blizz that way. But rarely does life go according to plan, especially when animals intervene.

It started out as a typical, hot Oklahoma summer day. Angelia was working in the clinic as usual when a litter of 11 sickly newborns arrived. They'd been abandoned outside of a restaurant in a dirty bucket. A number of the kittens were already deceased and the rest needed extensive care. They all needed bottle feeding and medication to treat infections caused by their situation. Angelia quickly volunteered to foster two kittens. Sadly, a few of the infections were so severe those kittens lost an eye in order to survive; one of Angelia's fosters, Tilly, lost both.

Angelia immediately recognized a new bond forming with this one-week-old, blind kitten. With Angelia's soft spot for animals with disabilities, it wasn't hard for Tilly to leave her mark and make a lasting impression that ultimately led to adoption.

Although blind, according to Angelia, Tilly is very outgoing and extremely brave. Relying on her other senses, Tilly can move around the house better than the other animals who can see. Since leaving the shelter, Tilly transitioned easily to her new life. While it took some time to get used to Nollie, and they're still not best friends, she got along very well with Blizz from day one.

When it comes to furry friends, sometimes the best plans are no plans at all. With two pets at home and no desire to expand, Angelia met Tilly and the rest is history. Planned or unplanned, sometimes animals find us. At the Tulsa SPCA we work day in and day out to find our animals their forever homes and love the unexpected bonds and families created along the way.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Teauna Baker

Looking for a productive way to give back and spend her time, Teauna Baker became a Tulsa SPCA volunteer nearly five months ago. A self-proclaimed "cat person," Teauna found a new fondness for her canine companions. Furthermore, Baker became a foster mom in addition to her volunteer support at the shelter. She is one of the organization's biggest and most engaging advocates at events throughout the community.

Q: What made you want to become a volunteer at the Tulsa SPCA?

A: I signed up to volunteer as I was looking for something to fill my time instead of wasting it. Additionally, I've always wanted to adopt a dog but didn't know how to properly interact with them because I prefer cats. Volunteering was the first step towards not being so biased towards cats.

Q: How long have you been volunteering at the Tulsa SPCA?

A: I've been volunteering for the Tulsa SPCA for about five months, but it feels like a lifetime!

Q: What do you like most about volunteering with the Tulsa SPCA?

A: I like not knowing what to expect when I volunteer. One day it may be calm and the next it may be chaotic. I've gotten used to dogs jumping on me and cats climbing up my leg. It's always a learning experience whenever I visit, and not to mention all the amazing souls, staff and volunteers, I've met. Most of all, I love the feelings I get when I see animals I've grown fond of get adopted.



Q: Talk about your experience as an animal foster.

A: I never thought I would sign up for fostering since I have a pretty full schedule. However, I had the impulse to sign up for being a foster mom and soon after I had a litter of kittens. I never knew how much livelier my home would be with five kittens running around! Since becoming a foster, I have become very attached to my foster babies so I always ask for pictures of them and to see them when I'm visiting the clinic.

Q: Why would you encourage others to get involved/be a volunteer at the Tulsa SPCA?

A: Volunteering is always fun, especially if the people around you love their job and don't mind sharing their knowledge with you. I wasn't expecting to volunteer as much as I have so far, but with the Tulsa SPCA there are so many community-based events. If you're new to the Tulsa area it's a great way to learn more about the city because you're talking with people from the community at these events. From mobile adoption to Clear the Shelter, there's always something exciting to participate in. Plus, who wouldn't want to play with dogs and cats all day!



Inaugural PAWsh Palaces Event Designed for the Tulsa Community

The oohs and ahhs from the crowd as the first black cloth unveiled a dog house like no other was the perfect way to kick off Tulsa SPCA's PAWsh

Palaces, our newest fundraiser celebrating great design, the education of students and pet adoption. A partnership between the Tulsa SPCA, the Eastern Oklahoma Chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIAEOK) and the Tulsa Regional STEM Alliance (TRSA), the event was 18 months in the making. The end result was the creation of seven custom dog houses and cat condos displayed at Woodland Hills Mall for 16 days (Nov. 2 to Nov. 18). It looked like an art exhibit with a purpose!

What began as an idea to raise money and further community partnerships quickly grew to a multi-layered event including local architects mentoring students at local schools (Tulsa Public School Mark Twain Elementary and Union Public Schools Ochoa, Boevers, Clark, Jarman, Jefferson and McAuliffe) to create model dog houses and cat condos

of their own. The partnership culminated with the top school teams being paired with the AIA/Builder team entrants to have their works displayed side by side at Woodlands Hill Mall vying to win the People's Choice Award. Additionally, the top three STEM elementary school teams won awards of \$1,000, \$500 and \$250, respectively.

With every vote cast costing \$5, the event saw great participation rates during its inaugural year with 1,009 votes cast and \$5,045 dollars raised. From the architect firms to the supporting schools, the competition was close until the final ballot was cast and winner revealed on Nov. 18. To see who won the People's Choice Award, and all the other awards, visit tulsaspcaspa.org/pawsh-palaces.

Thank you to each firm, school, volunteer and partner on making this inaugural event such a success, and to all who cast their votes in support of both the Tulsa SPCA and their favorite pet palace.



Award: Most Structurally Sound
Architect: W Design | **Builder:** Miller-Tippens Construction Company
School: Ellen Ochoa Elementary



Award: Most Ambitious
Architect: TriArch Architecture
Builder: Builder's Unlimited, Inc
School: George F. Boevers Elementary



Award: Best in Show
Architect: SGA Design Group
Builder: Stava Building Corporation
School: Christa McAuliffe Elementary



Award: Most Playful
Architect: Sparks Reed Architecture and Interiors | **Builder:** Nabholz
School: Mark Twain Elementary



Award: Best Indoor House
Architect: KKT Architects
Builder: Crossland Construction
School: Roy Clark Elementary



Award: Best Use of Material
Architect: Ambler Architects
Builder: John Hallaway Construction
School: Jarman Elementary



Award: Best Outdoor House
Architect: Freese Architecture
Builder: Rupe Helmer Group
School: Thomas Jefferson Elementary

Thank you to the Tulsa
SPCA PAWsh Palaces
Guild Hall sponsor
The Barbour Family
Foundation

Find out who won the PAWsh Palaces People's Choice Award at tulsaspcaspa.org/pawsh-palaces





Holiday Decorating for Nosy Pets



Pet-proofing your home starts with buying the right tree and the safest ornaments. **Here are some things pet owners should keep in mind when they go out to purchase their holiday pieces:**

1 Consider an artificial Christmas tree

Most real Christmas trees have sharp needles that can scratch and puncture your pet's skin. Natural pine needles are also mildly toxic to animals; they can be dangerous if your dog or cat gobbles them up. Felines also tend to think the tree trunk is a natural scratching post. These pets are often tempted to climb the whole tree when they feel playful, which not only damages the tree and ornaments, but also increases the chance that your whole holiday setup will topple over unexpectedly.

2 Choose a traditional-looking tree

When selecting an artificial tree, avoid the glittery and sparkly kind. These trees are dazzling to look at, but they can also spark extra curiosity in your pets. Tinsel, while a fun addition to any tree, is often fatal when ingested by pets; a simple green Christmas tree will do.

3 Invest in a medium-sized tree

Medium-sized trees approximately 5 feet tall are considerably safer than those that tower at 7 feet or beyond. The taller the tree is, the greater the chances it has of getting knocked over by frisky pets.

4 Avoid using tabletop trees

Dogs can easily snatch tabletop trees and decorations and turn them into a chew toy. A dog-proof Christmas tree should be about 5 feet tall.

5 Keep your ornaments simple

Sparkly ornaments that dangle from your tree can quickly catch unwanted pet attention. Avoid using anything overly shiny or glowing, and refrain from using glass ornaments when possible. Should the glass ornaments accidentally drop, your pets could end up stepping on or accidentally ingesting small glass shards, causing serious injury or harm.

Save the Date

December 8, 2018 • 1pm

Tulsa Christmas Parade

Downtown Tulsa

Spring 2019

Tulsa SPCA Pranks & Paws Trivia Night

Summer 2019

Tulsa SPCA Paws & Pictures Movie Night

Admiral Twin Drive In

Summer 2019

Tulsa SPCA Bingo Bash

Visit tulsaspcaspa.org for additional event information.



This article was published by the Balsam Hill Resource Center.

Go Green with email

Would you like to get the Tulsa SPCA Newsletter electronically via email?

Choosing an electronic version not only saves trees, but it also saves the Tulsa SPCA money on printing and postage. If you would like to help us go green, send an email to admin@tulsaspcaspa.org and provide your name and email address. Thank you for your support of the Tulsa SPCA!



The Gift That Keeps on Giving



Making a planned gift to the Tulsa SPCA is a meaningful way to carry forward your compassion and concern for animals, and is an exceptional way to say thank you to every animal who has touched your life. As the Tulsa SPCA continues to provide progressive, life-saving programs, caring for animals who have been victims of abuse, neglect, and abandonment, providing minor and major medical assistance as needed, and so much more — planned gifts are one of the most effective ways to support our long-term mission.

The Tulsa SPCA assisted over 7,000 animals last year providing medical assistance, shelter, and unconditional love. We strive to be a safe harbor for animals in need, abandoned and homeless animals, and work tirelessly to find them their forever homes.

We are honored when people consider the Tulsa SPCA when choosing benefactors for their wills, trusts, insurance policies, qualified retirement plans, and CDs. You may designate a

gift to a particular program we offer, like Sammy Fund, or contribute to our annual fund to help us continue to care for the numerous animals who come through our doors by using your gift for their greatest needs. Your thoughtfulness will ensure the Tulsa SPCA continues to improve the lives of dogs and cats, and their human companions — people like you!

For additional information about how your legacy gift could make an impact on the Tulsa SPCA mission, please contact our Director of Development at giving@tulsaspc.org or 918.428.SPCA (7722). Make your passion your promise.



Thank You to Our Event Sponsors

2018 Joint Sponsors for Trivia Night, Paws & Pictures and Bingo Bash

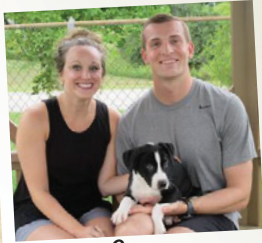


Academy Award Level for Paws & Pictures



Furever Home!

The Tulsa SPCA Brings Together Families



Corrin



Grover



Snow



Jennifer



JJ and Lawrence



Trident



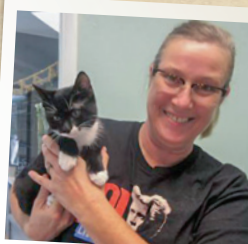
Morgan and Trixie



Carson



Joad



Melvin



Arlow



Wisdom



Whitley



Scuttle



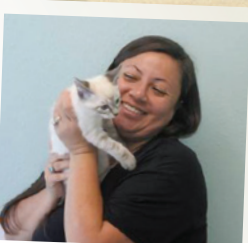
O'Malley



Missy



Bagheera



Sahara



Willard



Juliana





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