

# Tracks




## Winter 2019

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.

 [tulsaspc.org](http://tulsaspc.org)  
(918) 428-7722

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[tulsaspc.org/donate](http://tulsaspc.org/donate)

## happy tails

### Okie at the Bay



When the floods hit the Tulsa region, the Tulsa SPCA partnered with the Humane Society of Tulsa and Tulsa Animal Welfare to transport over 100 animals to make room for displaced pets affected by the heavy rains and flooding in Northeastern Oklahoma.

Titan boarded a plane and made his way to an animal shelter in Maryland. Several months later, we received an update on him...

A family who had recently lost their nine-year-old dog, Ranger, fell in love with Titan. They renamed him Okie, because of his Oklahoma roots.

His new owner, Amy, said, "After losing my dog Ranger, I didn't think I would have another dog again for a long time. But getting Okie was the best thing I did! We needed a dog, and he needed a home! Perfect match! He is such a character and we have gotten so many laughs because of him! He LOVES snuggling on the couch and recliner. And he LOVES running in our yard! He is a wonderful dog!"

Okie is living the good life in Maryland, and we couldn't be happier for him. To read more stories of the forever families brought together by the Tulsa SPCA, visit [tulsaspc.org/happy-tails](http://tulsaspc.org/happy-tails).

### On the Road Again



Since being adopted from the Tulsa SPCA a year ago, Shadow has become a dash cat.

*Continued on page 3*







# PAWsh Palaces Event Designed for the Tulsa Community



## Rosewood Retreat

### TEAM #1

Davies Architects  
Cowen  
Construction



## Fur Seasons

### TEAM #2

JCJ Architects  
KBI  
Construction



## FURniture

### TEAM #3

Tri-Arch  
Builders  
Unlimited, Inc.



## Fidopolis

### TEAM #4

SWE Architects  
Goodwin Company



## Ruff Housers

### TEAM #5

Okla. State Univ.  
Freedom by Design  
OSU



## Westminster

### TEAM #6

Tulsa Tech  
Drafting & Design  
Students



The second annual PAWsh Palaces fundraising event started on Saturday, Nov. 2, looking very different than last year's. Six palaces were displayed at Southern Agriculture locations in Tulsa and surrounding communities.

The public was invited to vote for their favorite dog house or pet furniture. Each \$5 vote entered the donor to win the house for which they voted.

Voting took place online at [tulaspca.org/pawshvoting](https://tulaspca.org/pawshvoting) through Saturday, Dec. 7, at midnight.

This event was developed to help us improve the lives of dogs and cats and their human companions — dogs like Sheldon (pictured above).

Sheldon lived his life on a chain without proper shelter or protection until the Tulsa SPCA cruelty investigator Tim Geen rescued him in June. Despite the Tulsa SPCA's efforts to promote awareness, dogs like Sheldon are forced to suffer outside in the sweltering heat of summer or the deep freeze of winter.

One way we promoted awareness of the life-saving importance of pet shelters was our annual PAWsh Palaces event — a collaborative effort between our agency, Tulsa architecture firms, builders and two student groups.

This competition celebrated innovative design and our family pets. These teams came together to design one-of-a-kind doghouses and indoor pet furniture.

To participate in next year's PAWsh Palaces fundraiser as a designer, builder or sponsor, please contact Director of Development Jana Paul at [giving@tulaspca.org](mailto:giving@tulaspca.org) or 918-428-7722 ext. 1037.

## Presenting Sponsor



SOUTHERN AGRICULTURE  
All Things For All Animals.

## Nobility Sponsor

Barbara and Jen Bladen

## Artisan Sponsor

Cricket, Laynie and Sweetie Rogers

*Continued from page 1*

Shadow has trekked a little over 100,000 miles with owner and truck driver, Raymond — from Miami, Florida, to Portland, Oregon, and everywhere in between. Snoozing in the passenger seat without a care in the world is a far cry from how Shadow started life.

As a kitten, Shadow was found in a Tulsa storm drain by one of our foster families. After getting spayed and vaccinated, she was made available to adopt. Raymond came to the Tulsa SPCA in search of a

traveling companion and instantly made a strong connection with Shadow. They have been logging miles with each other ever since.

With Shadow always leaving with Raymond during those long hauls, his wife came in this year to adopt Nash. Nash will be her stay-at-home companion while Shadow and Raymond hit the road.

We love hearing Happy Tails updates about our animals — especially these two adopted siblings.



Nash stays at home while Shadow hits the road.

## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

### Grace Peterson

Grace Peterson has been one of the Tulsa SPCA's top volunteers since May of 2019. She attends Holland Hall and is a member of one of the only high school field hockey teams in Tulsa. Even though she is only 16, she has made a difference at the shelter, and she has also made a difference at her school. This year she started a club to raise awareness for animal shelters and what animals go through being in a shelter. We could not be prouder that she chose Tulsa SPCA and appreciate all that she has done for all our furry friends.

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

I've always loved dogs! This was the perfect opportunity for me to use that to make a difference. Also, I'm hoping to become a veterinarian. Having this chance to be around animals is a good experience for me before going to vet school.

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

Just being around the animals and knowing that I can make their day better is the most rewarding experience I could ask for.

#### Q: Talk about your recent experience of adopting an animal from the Tulsa SPCA.

I recently was given the one thing I've been asking for since early this summer. All I've wanted is to adopt a dog. After months of begging and convincing my mother, she finally agreed to let me get one! I knew which dog I wanted instantly. Her name was originally Esme, now Aspen. She is a terrier/lab/poodle mix and is seven-years-old. She is perfect. We needed an older dog due to me leaving for college soon and my mom being gone most of the day. She fits right in!



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

Volunteering is so much fun and it just make your heart feel happy. You get to play around with all the animals and spend time with them. It's fun for you and them!

#### Q: Is there any special memory you've had volunteering at the shelter with any of the animals?

Due to me being a volunteer, I was able to help my boyfriend's aunt adopt a dog from the Tulsa SPCA, which meant a lot to me. However, one of the most memorable moments was a new intake we had. Her name was Isabelle. The first day I saw her she was really scared due to being previously mistreated. During her time at the shelter, she slowly warmed up to me and grew to enjoy human companionship instead of fear it. It was so rewarding that I was able to be a part of that experience. The Tulsa SPCA has truly made a big impact in my life.

Find out who won the PAWsh Palaces People's Choice Award at [tulaspca.org/pawsh-palaces](https://tulaspca.org/pawsh-palaces)







# A Desperate Need

*The Tulsa SPCA rescues a pit mix dog who nearly starved to death after being abandoned for 6 weeks*

Photo: Twiggy upon intake at the Tulsa SPCA

Through September of 2019, the Tulsa SPCA has taken in 959 animals and placed 918. We've spayed or neutered 2,847 dogs and cats, provided 10,572 vaccinations and 1,499 microchips, investigated 649 cruelty complaints and distributed over 11,500 lbs. of food to 964 animals in need, as well as provided assistance during the historic flooding this spring and much more.

"The work we do every year is important," executive director Mindy Tiner said. "But this year the Tulsa SPCA's impact reached new levels."

One of the animals the Tulsa SPCA rescued this year is a white pit mix named Twiggy. The Tulsa SPCA cruelty investigator Tim Geen received a cruelty complaint from a contractor who had been performing work and noticed an emaciated dog on the adjacent property. Once Geen arrived, he learned the contractor had been working at the location for six weeks and the house next door was vacant the entire time.

"It is unclear why the dog wasn't noticed prior," Geen said. "But by the time we arrived, the situation was critical."

We immediately removed the dog and brought him to our clinic.

"He was an anatomy lesson," veterinary assistant Erin Johnson said. "He smiled that day. He still does, even after all he has been through."

At intake Twiggy weighed 29 lbs. and was both critically dehydrated and anemic due to a flea and worm infestation. The clinic at the Tulsa SPCA immediately began treatment and hoped for the best.

"It only took one of us to lift him into the tub," Johnson said.

The three-year-old pit mix had apparently been eating sticks and grass in the overgrown yard where he'd been abandoned for six weeks. The cruelty and clinic staff named him Twiggy for his desperate diet.

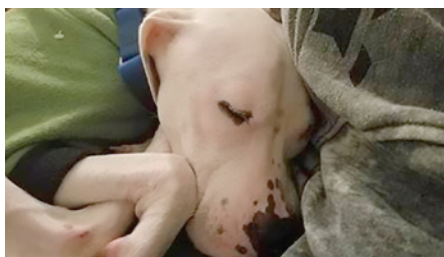
Tiner requested Tulsa Animal Welfare pursue charges against the people who abandoned Twiggy and turned in Geen's report and supporting documentation to the City of Tulsa.



12 days after arriving at the Tulsa SPCA

Over the next several days, Twiggy started to improve. He went home with staff each day to get extra attention.

"We put a sweater on him," volunteer manager Jessica Padilla-Hernandez said. "Both because he was shaking cold, and so people wouldn't think we were terrible. He had no body fat."



Padilla-Hernandez fostered Twiggy most nights.

"All he did for the first week and half was sleep," Padilla-Hernandez said. "He'd get up to eat and just go back to sleep. The only time he would act like a puppy was when he first woke up in the morning. He'd stretch and wake me up."

After his first 12 days in the care of the Tulsa SPCA, Twiggy had increased his weight to 42 lbs.

A few weeks later, the team found out that Twiggy's case was officially opened by Tulsa County District Attorney Steve Kunzweiler.

Kunzweiler was unable to comment for this article because the case is open.

"We are happy to say the DA has decided to take Twiggy's case," Tiner said. "While it works its way through the justice system we will continue caring for him and hope the person or people who committed this crime will be brought to justice."

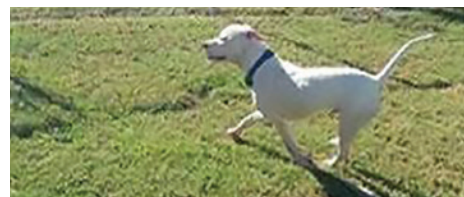
"Twiggy's resilience and love for humans amazes us," Tiner said. "Because we know what he went through at the hands of someone who was supposed to love and care for him."

Twiggy now weighs 52 lbs. and is able to run, play and begin to trust humans again.

"He doesn't fit into his green sweater anymore," Padilla-Hernandez said.

Which is good news because it means he doesn't need its protection anymore either.

"I wish I could say Twiggy was the first animal we'd assisted in this way, or that he would be the last," Tiner said. "But unfortunately we know there will be more."



Twiggy enjoys a full life after being rehabilitated by the Tulsa SPCA staff and volunteers.

## 3 ways you can support the Tulsa SPCA this holiday season



1

### Choose the Tulsa SPCA on Amazon Smile when purchasing your holiday gifts

Go to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and choose the Tulsa SPCA as your charity of choice. Amazon will donate a percentage of your purchase to us.

2

### Become a monthly donor

Our monthly donors support our mission by committing to a monthly donation. This is an easy way to increase your impact for the dogs and cats in the Tulsa community! Sign up before the end of the year and receive a special gift.

You can sign up by going to [tulsaspc.org/donate](https://tulsaspc.org/donate) and choosing monthly in the payment options, writing "monthly giving" on your check or giving us a call at 918-428-7722, ext. 1037.

3

### Give the gift of love

Give the gift of love this holiday season by choosing to make a donation in a loved one's name. Choose from the below options and we will send a holiday card letting them know what they're helping support!

- **\$10** covers food for 4 dogs for 1 day
- **\$20** covers food for 1 cat for 1 month
- **\$50** covers vaccination and preventive medicine costs for a dog or cat while in our care
- **\$75** sponsors the adoption fee for an animal with special circumstances
- **\$500** sponsors a kennel or portion of the cat colony room for a calendar year

**To get started**, email [giving@tulsaspc.org](mailto:giving@tulsaspc.org) or call 918-428-7722, ext. 1037

## Coming in 2020

*Dates to be determined*

- Tulsa SPCA Pranks & Paws Trivia Night
- Tulsa SPCA Paws & Pictures Night at the Drive-In
- Tulsa SPCA Bingo Bash
- Tulsa SPCA PAWsh Palaces

**Visit [tulsaspc.org](https://tulsaspc.org) for additional event information.**



**TULSA SYMPHONY** presents  
**Strauss and Schumann**  
 with vocalist *Sarah Coburn*  
 USE CODE: **TULSASPCA**  
 Tickets start at \$15  
**JANUARY 11, 2020 | 7:30 PM**  
 Tulsa Performing Arts Center  
 Tickets: (918) 584-3645 or [tulsasymphony.org](https://tulsasymphony.org)

## Join us at the Tulsa Symphony January 11, 2020!

Up to 40% of the ticket price for tickets purchased for the Jan. 11, 2020, show at the Tulsa Symphony will be given to the Tulsa SPCA when you use code "tulsaspc" when selecting your seats. Ticket prices range from \$15 – \$70.

Thank you to the Tulsa Symphony for helping support animals in the Tulsa community!

**Note:** When selecting your seats, you must enter the code "tulsaspc" in the coupon code field and press the enter button for it to be counted.



# Holiday Treats for Your Pets

## Calvin's Christmas Cookies (Dog Treats)

**Author:** The Scrumptious Pumpkin Blog

**Yield:** 18 small treats

**Level:** Easy

**Total Time:** 55 minutes

### Ingredients

- 1 cup rye flour (or substitute rice flour or all-purpose flour)
- ¾ teaspoon baking powder
- ¼ cup unsweetened applesauce
- 2 tablespoons organic honey
- 3 ½ tablespoons olive oil (or substitute organic canola oil)
- 2 tablespoons organic dried cranberries, finely chopped
- 2 tablespoons pumpkin seeds

### Instructions

1. Add the flour, baking powder, applesauce, honey and olive oil to a mixing bowl. Stir until well combined.
2. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.
3. Knead dough on a lightly-floured surface and roll out to about half an inch thick. Cut treats with a cookie cutter and place on a parchment-lined baking sheet.
4. Firmly press a few pieces of chopped cranberries and pumpkin seeds into the top of each cookie.
5. Bake for about 12-15 minutes or until treats are firm to touch.
6. Turn off oven and open oven door. Allow cookies to cool in oven about 20-30 minutes.

### Storage

Cookies will keep for several days when stored in a covered airtight container in a cool, dry location. Cookies may also be frozen; separate treats with parchment paper and store in an upright covered container.



## 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@tulsasPCA.org](mailto:admin@tulsasPCA.org) and provide your name and email address. Thank you for your support of the Tulsa SPCA!

# Furever Home!

The Tulsa SPCA Brings Together Families



Antonia



Liza



Cole



DC



Marceline



Bradley



Loni



Isabelle



Maverick



Rycroft



Roxanne



Schooner



Sony



Tyler



Tugboat



Sid



Vega



Wendy



Vignette



Veronica





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Read about  
Twiggy inside.

**Your support  
saves lives.**