



P A W P R I N T S

**THE SHAMROCK FOUNDATION, INC.**  
Quarterly Newsletter Summer 2006

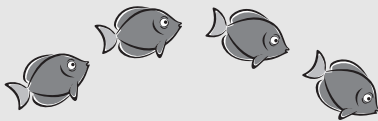
## FURBALL 2006 Awards for Excellence

### MISSION STATEMENT



#### The Shamrock Foundation

is a non-profit organization whose mission is to end pet overpopulation, reduce the number of companion animals destroyed in local shelters and save or enhance the lives of animals in need in our community. This is accomplished through spay/neuter, education, emergency medical assistance, rescue, foster care and the adoption of pets into lifetime homes. We are a group of highly committed, unpaid volunteers who have a passion for our mission and its goals. 🐾



*Puck & Calla adopted by Amy and David*



### *Trooper Volunteer Award*

*Sponsored by Mary Casey*

**Winner: MONIKA WILCOX, WOODLAND WILDLIFE REHAB, INC.**

Injured wildlife find homes and rehabilitation at the Radcliff home of Monika Wilcox and her husband, John. Monika has an excellent release rate and animals receive the finest care until they are ready to return to the wild.

In over 14 years of rescue, Monika has taken in all kinds of birds and mammals, and also raises orphans until they can be released back into their natural environments. Monika and John work 365 days a year, with most workdays averaging 13-18 hours. Monika works against all odds. She receives very little financial support and scrapes by month-to-month. On many days, her hands are literally raw from the workload.

Monika has nursed up to 22 fawns at one time, and last year handled 861 birds and 301 mammals. Please consider supporting Wildlife Rehab, Inc.

### *Trooper Volunteer Award*

*Tie for Honoree: RITA DAVIS*

Rita is the director of the Morgan Community Center in Trimble County. Trimble County barely has 3800 residents and does not have a veterinary clinic. Rita sees most of the residents when they come to the community center to pay their utility bills, license vehicles, pick up their children after school, or attend community meetings.

Because of Rita's love for animals, she tries very hard to help county residents and their pets in any way she can. In 2001, Rita called Woodstock Animal Foundation to request their Neuter Scooter for mobile spay/neuter clinics. As of October 2005, her efforts have altered 3,218 pets. Each monthly clinic is overbooked. She personally follows up with each pet owner after surgery. As a resourceful advocate of spay and neuter, Rita finds ways for residents to earn money for the low-cost clinics—everything from picking up trash on local roads to volunteering at the spay/neuter clinics. She has gotten spay/neuter clinic dates printed on local water bills, in church bulletins, civic newsletters, and the local newspaper.

Rita Davis is a one-woman show in Trimble County, and she won't stop until every animal has a caring home.

*Tie for Honoree: LINDA VIBBERT*

Linda is much more than a volunteer for Animal Protection Association in Jeffersonville, IN. She has not only scooped litter boxes, mended canines, attended meetings and chaired fundraising activities, but she has given her property and all her waking hours to the animals.

Linda offered her property to APA, and the group was finally able to accept dogs for adoption and house them in one location. APA's facility had only been able to accept cats before Linda made this huge sacrifice.

At one time or another, Linda has cared for more than 300 pets. When parts of her property flood, she literally canoes to tend to the animals in a renovated farm house. In addition to the attentive and knowledgeable care she gives each animal, Linda Vibbert is a loud voice for animal welfare in Southern Indiana.

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## THE SHAMROCK FOUNDATION

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS & OFFICERS

<b>Executive Director</b>	Sharon Mayes
<b>Vice-President</b>	Mary Casey
<b>Treasurer</b>	Chris Crompton
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<b>Membership Chair</b>	Mike Alain

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<b>Finance Committee Chair</b>	Sharon Ostendorf
<b>Webmaster</b>	Mike Alain
<b>Web Support</b>	Jessica Vautard

## WANTED



The Shamrock Foundation is seeking two individuals that are knowledgeable and committed volunteers to help us by their presence at various community events. Please contact

Ted Bressoud at 502-899-9680 if you are interested.

## PAW PRINTS NEWSLETTER

The quarterly publication of The Shamrock Foundation.

### STAFF

<b>Executive Director</b>	Sharon Mayes
<b>Managing Editor</b>	Mary Casey
<b>Copy Editor</b>	Rebecca Heintzman
<b>Design &amp; Production</b>	Teresa Heintzman
<b>Contributing Editors</b>	Ginny Stottman Jackie Gulbe Susan Meyer Michele Reilly
<b>Comments/Question</b>	Mary Casey mcasey@kfg.com

## Law Enforcement Animal Award

Sponsored by Pfizer Animal Health

Winner - **"PAL" THE LMPD MOUNTED PATROL HORSE**

Nominated by a school teacher, "Pal" is not only protecting our community, he also makes school visits. Pal shares his job duties with children, teaching them about Mounted Patrol horses, and how to groom and care for horses. Pal is very quick to let everyone know that he earned First Place in competition at the National Police Competition in 2004.

Let's not forget Pal's partner, Officer Mattingly, who teaches students about the dangers of drugs and strangers, how to stay safe, and to always approach police officers if you need them.

We are honored to have Pal and Officer Mattingly on our streets. Their presence keeps our community safe and this dynamic duo is a visible ambassadors for the LMPD and our city.

## Law Enforcement Animal Award

Honoree: **K-9 WILSON**

On October 29, 2005, Officer Rick Heine and his Belgian Malinois partner, K-9 Wilson, were called to search for a murder suspect. K-9 Wilson ran his track and located a baseball cap thought to belong to the suspect.

Officer Heine and K-9 Wilson tracked about 75 additional yards after being advised by Air 20 Helicopter that there was a heat source behind a nearby fence. K-9 Wilson was released through a hole in the fence, and within seconds, had apprehended the suspect. The suspect was arrested without further incident and charged with murder.

This is K-9 Wilson's daily job. Every day is a heroic effort, and we thank K-9 Wilson for protecting his community and his partner.

## Therapy/Companion Animal Award

Sponsored by Gary Tran, DVM

Winner: **"TYLER" OF BRIDGEHAVEN**

Animals are crucial to Bridgehaven's mission of community-based psychiatric rehabilitation and recovery. Tyler, who resembles a Bearded Collie, has been giving unconditional love and emotional support to clients for 15 years. Tyler's partner is Arti Ortega, a Licensed Clinical Social Worker.

Tyler has helped many patients through suicidal crises. She has encouraged patients to respond verbally, remain calm and pay attention. She has a history of significantly reducing anxiety in patients with depression, schizophrenia and other disorders. Many people credit Tyler with saving their lives. In her 15 years of compassionate work, she has given many patients a reason to LIVE.

## Therapy/Companion Animal

Honoree: **"PATCH" THE ENGLISH SHEEPDOG**

Patch and her owner, Denise Cunningham, are active and outgoing members of WAGS (Wonderful Animals Giving Support). Patch spends almost every weekend visiting her special friends at nursing homes, bringing joy to each resident with her big wet nose and stubby tail. Many residents eagerly await these special visits with the big fluffy girl who loves everyone. Patch looks forward to each weekend, and to meeting new people. What wonderful gifts she brings!

## Animal Professional Award

Sponsored by Feeders Supply

Tie for Winner: **WILLIAM HICKEY, DVM**

Well-known to every humane organization, Dr. Bill Hickey is a giving, caring, exceptional veterinarian. For the past 15 years, he has assisted Animal Care Society, making "house calls" to the shelter at any time of day or night. He has gone into the woods to remove a kitten whose head was stuck in a broken Mason jar with jagged edges. He has made house calls for Community Pet Relief Fund and Shamrock Foundation all over the city and suburbs. To help animals who need him, he has lifted couches, crawled into closets, climbed into attic rafters and slithered into crawl spaces to catch scared, injured or feral animals.

Dr. Hickey works 15+ hours per day at his clinic and with his mobile unit. In addition, he is president of his PTA and has served as Boy Scout sponsor. He is a "best friend" to Louisville's humane organizations as well as his many clients. To Dr. Hickey, it's all about the animals and their needs.

Tie for Winner: **CHRISTINA WEYRICK-COOPER**

Christina works 40-50 hours each week helping animals at her fulltime

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job with Kentucky Humane Society. She works tirelessly to find alternative placement for pets, organizes cross-country transports, and helps send doomed dogs to rescue. She tries to convince others that there is a better, smarter, more compassionate way to approach the business of saving animals.

Christina not only received nominations from local folks, but also from the shelter in Ohio where she worked prior to moving to Louisville. Christina is the Development Coordinator, Outreach Manager and Volunteer Coordinator for KHS. Her vision and strength are helping others to help animals. Christina has proven to be an exceptionally caring and able animal advocate, and has earned this acknowledgement daily.

## Animal Professional Award

Honoree: **ANGIE DURGASINGH**

Angie has been with Louisville Metro Animal Services for nearly 8 years. She is their Harriet Tubman—leader of the ‘underground railroad’ for Metro Animal Services.

Many pets that were scheduled to be euthanized have been put on that ‘freedom train’ by Angie, riding their way to safety and love. Although Angie works in the office, not the kennel, her efforts transcend her job description and scheduled work hours. She regularly contacts rescue groups to place dozens of animals. She appears at LMAS on her off-days, works nights at home, and uses the internet to locate foster homes and rescue groups who will take unwanted, adoptable animals.

Last year, LMAS set an all-time record for placing and adopting pets from their shelter. Angie’s efforts played a huge part in this unprecedented adoption rate. She has earned a special place in many hearts—canine, feline and human!

## Youth Service Award

Sponsored by The Humane Society of the United States

Winner: **JENI MATTINGLY**

From a very young age, Jeni has loved and respected animals. Her first volunteer job began at the age of 12, when she volunteered for Shamrock’s Dog and Cat Adoption Days. She has also fostered many animals and helped with the process of finding lifelong homes for them.

Jeni has worked on several rescue operations, displaying her gentle and patient understanding of animals. She volunteers for several fundraisers, and makes her daily rounds at Feeders Supply to clean cat condos for Shamrock.

Jeni is a junior at Central High School and is enrolled in the 3-year Veterinary Science Magnet Program. Her training enables her to medicate foster pets, clean their eyes and trim nails properly. We proudly honor Jeni as our Youth Service Award winner. She is truly a champion for animals.

Honoree: **ANDY STRUNK**

A special needs student at Kammerer Middle School, Andy is a compassionate and sensitive young man. In 2002, he began volunteering at Animal Care Society. This past summer, he worked two days per week.

Andy was eager to learn and was trained within a week, making sure all the animals were clean, happy and safe. He actually enjoys cleaning dirty kennels and is happy to work in 90-degree weather, making sure the dogs stay cool and have fresh water. Andy loves his job! He continues to make contributions to Animal Care Society through his work ethic and with his positive, caring attitude toward animals and people alike.

## Media Award

Sponsored by Feeders Supply

Winner: **AMY MERRICK**

Amy is a valued employee of Insight Communications. For the past 10 years, Amy has produced, directed and edited animal programs such as Pet Project, Pet Central and Pet Adopt-a-thons. She has been instrumental in attracting special guests and celebrities for these shows.

Amy has created many programs and worked with many animal agencies throughout Kentuckiana. She is currently producing Animal Answers Live on ICN2, which airs on Wednesdays at 7pm.

Honoree: **BRIAN KEHL**

Brian is a hard-working journalist for the Elizabethtown News Enterprise. To support ‘Pugapalooza’ Kentuckiana Pug Rescue fundraiser, Brian wrote an outstanding article titled, “Love is Blind for Pet Owners Who Do It For the Pug of It”. Brian’s article not only focused on the work done by KPR, it highlighted a local connection to the

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## REMINDER

If it's too hot for you to sit in your car in warm weather with the window cracked, **IT'S TOO HOT FOR YOUR DOG!** And your dog has a fur coat!

Don't take your dog with you to the grocery, the drug store or to the cleaners thinking, “*Oh, It will only take a minute to run in and grab what I need.*” and leave your dog in the vehicle on a warm or hot day. **REMEMBER: IT GETS HOT AND QUICKLY!**

So, use some common sense and leave the dog at home. And for those who travel around with their dog in the back of a pick-up truck, show them your love by putting him in the cab with you. The bed of that truck gets very hot in the sun and can burn their pads, besides it puts them in danger.

Please be safe, it's better than being sorry that you caused harm to your beloved pet. 🐾



## ADOPTION DAYS

FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY-MARCH

### Dogs & Puppies

**SATURDAYS 12:00NOON-3:00PM**

Hurstbourne Animal Hospital

(across from Meijers on South Hurstbourne Parkway)

Go to our website, [shamrockpets.com](http://shamrockpets.com) to view dogs and obtain an application.

Email us at [adoptions@shamrockpets.com](mailto:adoptions@shamrockpets.com) with questions.

### Cats & Kittens

**SATURDAYS 9AM-12NOON**

Middletown Feeders Supply

**SATURDAYS 1PM-4PM**

Feeder's Supply, 315 Baxter Avenue

Call for More Information

**585-3220**


### Greyhound Adoption


Call for Adoption Days Times & Location


**Jennifer Watkins 241-3140**


# SHAMROCK ROCKS!

You can help Shamrock Rock in the following ways:

 Visit Little Bit of Bybee Pottery, 11617 Main Street in the heart of Middletown, KY (502 245-0557). Please mention the Shamrock Foundation and 20% of the total sum of your purchases will be placed in a special account. When Shamrock needs a donation for a fund-raiser, the sum total of all purchases in the name of our organization will then be put toward any item or items of our choice in the store.

 Does your company supply matching funds? If so, call 585-3220 and leave a message as to who we should contact.

 We are in need of volunteers to check voice mail. You can do this from your home one or two days a week.

 Open a new account with direct deposit at Republic Bank and they will donate \$50.00 to Shamrock Foundation. Our goal is 100 new accounts by the end of the year. That means \$5,000 to spay/neuter 100 animals!



## SHAMROCK FOUNDATION, INC. FINANCIAL OVERVIEW 2005

Administrative	\$12,098
<i>[Banking, Insurance, Newsletters, Postage, Office Supplies]</i>	
Fundraising	\$13,158
Pet Expense	
Board & Hospital	\$22,498
Emergency	\$34,571
Financial Aid-Medical	\$27,869
Financial Aid-Spay/neuter	\$63,054
Foster Medical	\$50,596
Medical Supplies	\$4,732
Pet Expense Other	\$8,679
Total	\$237,255
Your Generous Donations	\$187,734

### WOODLAND WILDLIFE REHAB

As many of you may have seen on the news July 10th, an essential building at Woodland Wildlife Rehab burned to the ground overnight. The building housed all of their supplies, including bedding, nursing bottles, formulas, towels, antibiotics, medical supplies, etc. While they lost one cat in the fire, the other animals were saved. The founders, **John and Monika Wilcox**, have dedicated their lives to saving and caring for these wildlife rescues. Monika was the Winner of the *Pet Groups United 2005 Trooper Award*. Much of the center has been funded by their savings and generosity. They need your help now. Please send any monetary donations to: Woodland Wildlife Rehab, 297 North Woodland Dr., Radcliff, KY 40160 To find out what supplies are needed, call them at **270-351-3509**.

www.shamrockpets.com

# FOUND A DOG. *What Are Your Options?*

**U**ou see a dog walking on the side of the road. You know he may get killed by a car if he wanders into the road so you stop and call him to you. He comes, grateful that someone cares about him. You feel good because you have rescued a dog from injury or death.

But now what do you do with him?

You check for vital information if he has a collar and tags—a phone number or address—so you can deliver the wayward guy back home to loving arms. If there is no information on his collar or no collar at all, you can run by a vet's office and have him scanned for a microchip. But what if there is no chip?

You've done your good deed but now panic sets in. Maybe your apartment does not allow dogs. Or you have a dog who does not like other dogs. Or you have no dog and you don't want a dog in your home. You start to regret getting into this mess.

### *What should you do immediately?*

The dog you rescued could be 5-10 miles from where he got loose—within 30 minutes! He could also be right around the block. His owners could be searching for him or they could be out of town, thinking their dog is safe with a neighbor, relative or dog sitter. Many owners drive around looking for their pets. If you have the time, standing with the dog at a very visible and busy intersection has reunited many a lost pet with their owner.

**PER METRO ANIMAL SERVICES (MAS):** If you rescue a dog you must make an honest effort to find his owner. An ad in the paper is a requirement. Phoning vets in the surrounding found areas, leaving your number and putting up flyers in significant locations such as grocery stores, building supply stores and drugstores are extremely useful tools in locating an owner. **If you are holding onto the dog you must email or fax your found picture along with information and your contact number to MAS.** Many owners drop off pictures of their lost pets to MAS. Many owners have been united by lost and found pictures.

**PLACE AN AD IN THE CJ.** Be sure to place a free **FOUND** ad in the classifieds. Call right away because they stop taking calls at 6pm. Make certain that you leave off something that only an owner could identify. There are unsavory folks out there. Found ads run free for 6 days, but you must renew after the first 3 days. **LOST** ads cost money. Many owners will not or cannot afford to submit a **LOST** ad. Instead they hope to find their pet in the **FOUND** section.

### *What are your options if you still have the dog?*

**OPTION 1** Hold onto him. If you decide to hold onto the dog and take him in as "your rescue" you may legally place the dog after 5 days. We suggest you wait at least ten days to allow ample time for the owner to track down the dog. For large dogs it may take several months to find the right home. If you want to participate in Shamrock's adoption program, Shamrock can offer assistance in the necessary vet requirements (spay, neuter, shots, heartworm test). (You must pay to have the dog licensed in Jefferson County. If the dog is altered the fee is only \$7.50.)

The Shamrock Foundation has been in existence for 15 years. We have helped place thousands of pets in loving, permanent homes. Shamrock is run entirely by volunteers who work full-time jobs in addition to their Shamrock time. We appreciate that you are volunteering your time to help rescue an animal, and we need your participation in order to get him a new home.

Shamrock does not have a facility so you must hold onto the dog yourself and bring him to adoption days on Saturday from noon-3pm. You then can speak directly to people who come looking for the perfect dog. This is the best way to get the dog re-homed. People interested in a dog fill out an application and are interviewed by dog team members. Once approved by the dog team and agreed to by you, the adopters sign a contract and pay a fee to Shamrock to partially cover the cost of vet fees.

***This is what Shamrock offers you:***

- Listing on our website [www.shamrockpets.com](http://www.shamrockpets.com)

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- Dual-listing on [www.petfinder.com](http://www.petfinder.com), a nationwide organization
- Adoption days held every Saturday from 12-3pm where you bring the dog and stay with him to talk to potential adopters
- A digital photo of the dog for the web listings
- Dedicated volunteers who respond to email inquiries and phone calls between adoption days.

Our goal is to make good matches between families and dogs. This is why we need to see the dog every Saturday and get to know his special qualities.

Try to stay calm and remember that this is a temporary situation; the dog will eventually find a new home and you will not have him forever. If family members complain, remind them that small sacrifices are payback for all the good things they have in their lives.

**OPTION 2** Take him to the **Kentucky Humane Society**, a donation-supported organization. Folks often confuse the Kentucky Humane Society with Metro Animal Services. Many of the strays dropped off at the Humane Society are shipped to MAS, so people looking for their cat or dog should visit both locations for their pet.

**OPTION 3** Take him to **Animal Care Society**, another donation-funded facility. They do not accept strays and any that are abandoned there are also sent to Metro for the reason cited above.

**OPTION 4** Take the dog to **Metro Animal Services**

If you decide that your only option is to take the dog to Metro Animal Services (MAS), be certain to put the MAS address in your ad. This is the time to identify a dog as close possible. Owners will be required to show proof of ownership. MAS does their best to scan the lost ads every day.

The frantic owner may be able to identify and claim their pet first thing next morning (Monday through Saturday only.) He will have to pay a fee and that may serve as a good reminder to keep tags on his dog and not to let him get loose.

*However*, before you decide to take your stray to MAS, here are some facts you should know:

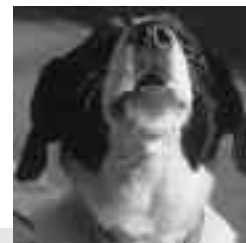
- Many strays are euthanized every week because folks either can't make it to Metro, don't think of making it to Metro or just won't make it to Metro. (*Some know they will be fined, because they do not have shots UTD., etc.*) That means if an owner is out of town, works extended hours, in the hospital, etc., the pet may be euthanized after 5 days if not claimed. Tragically, a very small fraction of owners go to the shelter looking for their pets—only 2-4 a day. The number of strays euthanized far outweighs the number of people who go to Metro searching for their pets.
- When a healthy stray enters a shelter he may be exposed to a variety of diseases that may cause sickness and/or death.
- When you take a dog to Metro you can put a *3rd party interest* notation on the form. This allows you to adopt the animal if the owner hasn't claimed him after the 5 day mandatory waiting period. However, you must be diligent about following up if you are a *3rd party interest*. One day can literally mean the difference between life and death. Make certain that you have both a description of the dog and Metro's ID or pen number when you drop him off so you can retrieve him.

*Is rescuing a dog worth all this trouble?*

When you rescue a dog your responsibility does not end there. It is just the beginning. The experience may be frustrating as well as aggravating to you and other family members.

However, rescuing can ultimately be a very rewarding experience. It's a great feeling to reunite a lost pet with a grateful owner. And even when the owner is nowhere to be found, it is gratifying to know you were instrumental in placing an otherwise forgotten, abandoned or potentially euthanized pet in a loving permanent home.

Who knows, you may even decide to help foster other dogs when yours is placed! We would love to have you join our group, [www.shamrockpets.com](http://www.shamrockpets.com). 🐾



## WHAT'S BARKIN'

### DATES TO REMEMBER

*check the website for more details*



## ART FOR THE ANIMALS

**August 3rd, 2006  
6-9PM**

*Did you know the Art for the Animals Auction is moving?*

There are so many changes in store this year. The biggest would have to be our new location. The Mellwood Art & Entertainment Center. This is a marriage made in heaven. The art auction has made a home with the center of the Louisville art scene.

We have formed a relationship with **Finelight** who will be doing all of the promotions for the art auction. We are looking forward to the increased awareness of The Art for the Animals Auction that Finelight will bring to us.

Those are the big ones but there are so many more in store. We hope that you will come and see the amazing difference. The Art for the Animals Auction is always the first Thursday in August which falls on the 3rd this year. Please come and support the foundation and the auction. 🐾

**finelight**

The pet lovers at Finelight Strategic Marketing Communications are proud to support the goodwill and dedication of the Shamrock Foundation. For more information, please call 589.5896 or visit [finelight.com](http://finelight.com).

# METRO ANIMAL SERVICES

## SUPPORT YOUR NEW LOCAL ANIMAL SHELTER

If you are reading this newsletter, I am assuming that you are plugged-in to the pet community and have heard the fabulous news that Mayor Jerry Abramson recently announced a \$4 million commitment to build a new Louisville Metro Animal Services Care Center.

This is the most exciting news I have heard since I started in this field 16 years ago. I want to let you know that we haven't gotten this far without strong support of the Shamrock Foundation, the current administration, the director of Louisville Metro Animal Services, Dr. Gilles Meloche and many other local pet lovers.

It has been a long road to get this point, and we still have a long road to travel. We will need to get the Louisville Metro Council on board to make sure this passes through the budget process. We sincerely hope that we can count on each and every one of you who read this newsletter to express your support for this project. If each of you helps spread the word of what a giant leap forward this is for our community, it will make a tremendous difference. I can talk about it all I want, but it doesn't carry the same credence as if you are talking about it with your friends, colleagues and elected officials.

Partnering with groups like the Shamrock Foundation, the Animal Care Society, the Woodstock Animal Foundation and a myriad of breed rescue groups has made a world of difference to hundreds of animals at our shelter. Can you imagine what we can accomplish together with a new facility?

We want our new shelter to be viewed as a community resource and asset. We want it to be a place where all residents come for information about animal adoptions and education about responsible pet ownership. There are many facilities across the country where residents regularly visit the local animal shelter like they do the zoo—for family outings, birthday parties or just to hang out with the animals. That's what we want here in Louisville!

The mayor also envisions our new shelter having medical facilities, a customer friendly adoption center, a larger capacity for animals, an education wing and training facilities.

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organization.

Brian's story generated lots of interest in this group and facilitated many inquiries and adoptions. Thank you, Brian.

## Hero Animal Award

*Sponsored by Animal Planet*

*Tie for Winner:* **"JACKSON" BEARD**

Jackson is a Maltese who got his second chance when Shamrock Foundation rescued him and matched him with a forever home.

Normally a very quiet little guy, Jackson began barking loudly in the front hallway. His owner, Patti, called to her son to let Jackson outside, but the dog refused to go. He kept barking frantically, so Patti came out of her bedroom. Jackson kept barking and led Patti to the kitchen. There, Patti found her mother, who has Parkinson's Disease, immobile on the floor.

Mother was not injured, but due to her disability, was unable to get up without help. Jackson never gets up on the couch, but as Patti moved her mother there, Jackson hurled himself upward so he could be next to Mother.

What a blessing Jackson was that night, according to Patti Beard. He is truly a hero to their family.

*Tie for Winner:* **"STINKY" MITCHELL**

On May 24, 2005, a little black Yorkie-Poo named Stinky was under the bed covers with his owners, Connie and Doyle Mitchell. Suddenly, Stinky woke up at 3am, started barking and running around the bed. He jumped off the bed and ran down the hallway, screaming hysterically.

Stinky was relentless, and would not stop until Doyle got out of bed to follow him. Doyle followed the barking little dog down the stairs to his son's living area. Doyle was shocked to find his son, Robbie, in his recliner and not breathing.

Stinky went back upstairs to make Connie follow him. Connie called EMS while Doyle performed CPR on his son. Robbie was revived. He had suffered a heart attack. Robbie is currently in Kindred Care on life support.

Big heroes can come in small packages, and Stinky is a testament to that fact.

*Honoree:* **"MOLLY" ELROD**

On October 8, 2005, Molly saved her owner's life. Mary Jo Elrod is a diabetic. Her blood sugar dropped dangerously low and she lost consciousness.

Molly witnessed her owner in distress and went downstairs to alert Mary's husband, who was asleep. Molly woke him up and led him upstairs to find Mary in the bedroom. EMS was called and Mary was taken to the hospital.

Thankfully, Mary made a full recovery. Had it not been for Molly's persistence and devotion, Mary might not be alive today.

## Good Samaritan Award

*Sponsored by Pet Groups United*

*Winner:* **CAPTAIN KEVIN RYAN, LOUISVILLE FIREFIGHTER**

Sometimes, there is a hero who doesn't quite fit into a category. Such is the case with Captain Ryan, a Louisville firefighter of 14 years. He has fought innumerable blazes and received two Medals of Honor.

He has saved many lives, many of which have been animals. In one case, Captain Ryan rescued a kitten that some children had thrown into the middle of a burning mattress. He took the injured kitten to the vet with the intention of adopting it, but the kitten did not survive its burns.

Captain Ryan has pulled people from burning buildings and returned to rescue their pets. Many owe their animals' very lives to this courageous man.

Captain Ryan owns a business in an area of town that includes many strays. He takes them in, feeds them, provides testing and veterinary care, spays and neuters, and finds homes for the ones he can adopt out. He traps, neuters and releases feral cats, and provides shelter and food for their entire lives.

For his exceptional valor and his tender heart, we know you will join us in recognizing Captain Kevin Ryan as a special friend to all animals. 🐾

## PATTY MEETS TERMEE

*Introducing a new kitten to an older cat.*

**M**y husband Paul and I have always respected the work that Shamrock does and loved visiting the kitties at Feeders Supply. However, we had no intention of adopting a new family member because we already have a wonderful 16-year-old calico named Termee. We were very concerned about how bringing another cat or kitten into our home would affect her, because she doesn't move quite as quickly or jump quite as high as she did when she was younger.



All of that changed when we attended the Shamrock event held at Digs during the November First Friday Trolley Hop. We stopped by primarily because Digs was donating a portion of the evening's proceeds to the Shamrock Foundation. We stopped to pet the animals, and I spotted a small, shy, black-and-white kitten peeking out of a carrier. While I was playing with her, it quickly became apparent that she was a very docile, sweet, and laid-back kitten. I still didn't think that she would be coming to live with us though.

Paul had gone to talk with some friends and when he came back to join me, I let him hold the kitten. He became just as smitten as I was. He looked over at me and said, "We have to have her." We completed the paperwork and made arrangements to pick her up the next day at Feeders Supply where she was going to be receiving some of her shots and immunizations from Shamrock volunteers.

The next morning we were so excited to go and get her, but we were also a little bit nervous about what would happen when Termee and the kitten, whom we named Patty, were introduced. I have attached pictures of their first moments, which consisted of a lot of curiosity on Termee's part while Patty played, oblivious to Termee.

There were some tense times at first like when Termee chased Patty under our TV armoire, which she used as her safe place off and on for about a month. It was a perfect location because Termee cannot fit underneath it.

Overall, they get along really well or just leave each other alone, and they now share a favorite pastime of napping in our bed. Sometimes we have even caught them rubbing noses, grooming each other, and hugging, so it turns out that our fears for Termee were unwarranted, and, in fact, I think that she enjoys the company while Paul and I are at work or otherwise away from home.

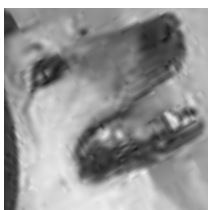
Paul and I have had a wonderful adoption experience with Shamrock, and I hope that many of you will be inspired to do so as well. Thank you Shamrock. 🐾

~Paul and Valerie Maron  
*Shamrock Supporter*

*Continued from page 6.*

The business of sheltering animals has evolved far, far beyond the capabilities of our 1966 facility. We hope that the mindset and support level will rise to the level that the animals and people in our community deserve in the year 2006.

By the way, I'm sure that Murphy is smiling. 🐾



~Jackie Gulbe  
*Assistant Director for Community Relations,*  
METRO ANIMAL SERVICES



### SHAMROCK NEEDS YOUR HELP

Spring is always a very busy time because of puppy and kitten season. All the shelters and those of us who work in the rescue and humane field become overwhelmed. It becomes frustrating and discouraging at times with so many of us who offer help with spay/neuter assistance that this problem still exists.

The word is spreading that Shamrock Foundation offers assistance for spay/neuter and emergency medical care. We are getting numerous calls daily and the need is growing. We want to continue to be of assistance for an animal in need. I could go into detail about some of the emergency calls we receive on a daily basis and the situations regarding these animals but I know it hurts some people to read such stories. Because Shamrock is there, sometimes we can make these stories have happy endings. Some of these animals have been rescued by good Samaritans, or someone's pet becomes gravely ill and the owner is on Social Security only, or just can't afford the treatment the pet requires. In many of these cases, the pet is the only family they may have, and a little financial assistance can keep that family together. If Shamrock wasn't there to assist in these situations or to help with the cost of spay/neuter most likely that the animal would not get the help needed.

Shamrock needs your help at this time. We are asking that you open your hearts and send a donation to help us continue helping these animals. Your donation is tax deductible and will go directly to cover the medical expenses for the dogs, cats, puppies and kittens who need veterinary care or to be spayed and neutered. Shamrock volunteers work very hard to enhance the lives of all the animals that come our way and who need help.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, all Shamrock volunteers and the animals your contribution will help—THANK YOU. 🐾

Humanely Yours,  
Sharon Mayes  
*President of The Shamrock Foundation, Inc.*

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