



2018-19

Kindness

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The Undesirables:
Serving less adoptable pets
in a puppy/kitten/purebred market



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The Undesirables: Sheltering less adoptable pets in a puppy/kitten/purebred market

Christine* had become ill and could no longer care for the pets in her home, so she made the difficult but responsible decision to seek assistance from the shelter nearest her, which was where she had adopted them originally. When asked if the shelter could help find homes for her cats she was told that Sylvester was "too black" and Buffy "too old" and that the pair is "undesirable" and could not come to the shelter. Buffy is shy and reserved and relies on Sylvester, who is living with Feline Immunodeficiency Virus and has one eye.

Christine was distraught and worried for Buffy and Sylvester after hearing similar answers from some other organizations. Out of desperation, she contacted Heartland. She burst into tears when staff informed her the shelter would gladly take them in.

"She immediately started crying when I told her we would take them." Courtney Williams, staff member

Though sad at the prospect of finding a new home for her companions, Christine was relieved to be able to bring them to Heartland, where she was assured that they would be kept together and adopted as a pair.

Zeke, featured on the cover, was returned to Heartland 8 years after his adoption in 2011. His family had to move several states away to a home that doesn't allow pets. Zeke is diabetic, requiring injections of insulin and dietary monitoring to maintain his health. Despite some vision loss from his condition he is an affectionate companion with a lively character. In his short time back at the shelter he has become a favorite among youth volunteers and made a wonderful shelter ambassador on a trip to the Grace Center for Adult Day Services, enthusiastically greeting everyone and gently interacting with the kitten and rabbit that accompanied him.

At the writing of this piece Heartland has 168 animals in its care; 101 in the shelter with the rest in foster care.

Staff identify 47 of the animals in the shelter to have special needs; medical or behavioral conditions that require medication or management and limit or complicate the animals' placement. This is roughly half of the total shelter population, with the remaining half split between adult animals with no known medical or behavioral issues (adoptable) and kittens, puppies, and dogs of desirable sizes/ages/and breeds (highly adoptable).

The highly adoptable animals will spend little time at the shelter before finding homes. Healthy adult animals will be here a bit longer, with cats having a longer length of stay than dogs.

Animals with special needs will remain at the shelter far longer than more adoptable counterparts. This, combined with the cost of their medications and treatments, make them far more costly to care for. Animals with regimens of drugs like insulin and anti-seizure medications can be intimidating to take on for the average adopter, even if they are considering a pet with special needs. Senior animals on special diets may be simpler to manage, but are often just passed up in favor of younger animals with no special requirements for care. These factors add up to push the cost of care per animal with special needs far past \$580.00, which is the average cost to care for an animal in the shelter, factoring basic treatments, spay/neuter, and average length of stay.

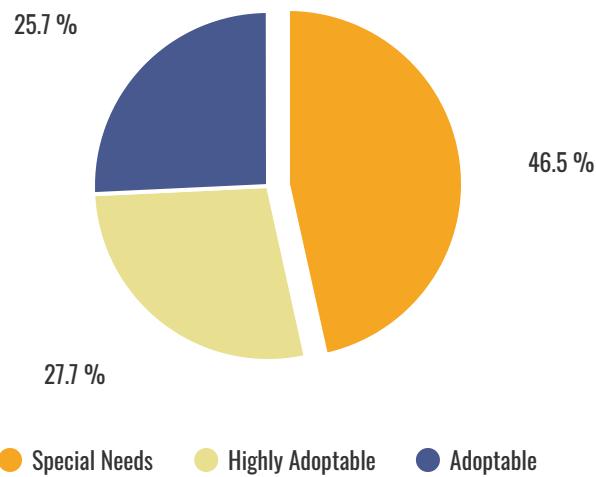
If you have been searching for adoptable pets it may seem as though populations of special needs animals in many shelters is on the rise. Industry efforts in the past decade have made great strides toward broadening the definition of "adoptability" and reducing euthanasia of animals with treatable and manageable conditions animals with special needs are now visible to the public and have a fighting chance at a loving home alongside their more conventionally "adoptable" counterparts. Cats like Bruce, Meowy, and Brewers (pictured right, from top) living with conditions like Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (which research has shown to be less contagious than previously thought and to have limited effects on quality of life) are featured for adoption in the same cattery as kittens and other cats at the shelter.

Despite the higher pricetag, Heartland will not refuse to intake these most vulnerable animals and care for them until they can be responsibly placed. This may mean that the shelter is unable to assist other partner shelters with as many transfer intakes, and why when you visit Heartland you may see many animals on the adoption floor with signage regarding their needs, as opposed to rows and rows of kittens and puppies.

Many of these so-called "undesirable" animals become the companions of staff members and no doubt, as a supporter of Heartland Humane Society, one may be sitting at your feet or on your lap as you read this. While placing these animals may take more time and be more difficult, it is obvious from the affection and joy that they give us that they appreciate the chance.

Inquiries related to this article - Emily James, donate@heartlandhumane.org, 541-757-9000 x109

Pets in Shelter



Bruce, Brewers, and Meowy form a tower of cuteness in Communal Window 3

2018-19 Community Impact

Heartland Humane Society is proud to serve Benton County and Corvallis as an open-admission shelter. We never turn an animal away from this service area, regardless of age, health, or temperament. Through the generosity of our supporters we are able to provide care and lifesaving treatments, helping animals become adoptable and maintaining them while they wait for loving homes.

HELPING HOMELESS ANIMALS

Heartland Humane Society served 1,518 animals in 2018-19

94%
Save Rate

HUMANE EDUCATION

54 Kids Club volunteers
102 attended Camp Catnip
229 toured the shelter
1,040 saw a School Presentation



3,255 Youth reached

VOLUNTEERING

12,326

hours worked by 66

Thrift Shop Volunteers



9,806

hours worked by 420

Shelter Volunteers



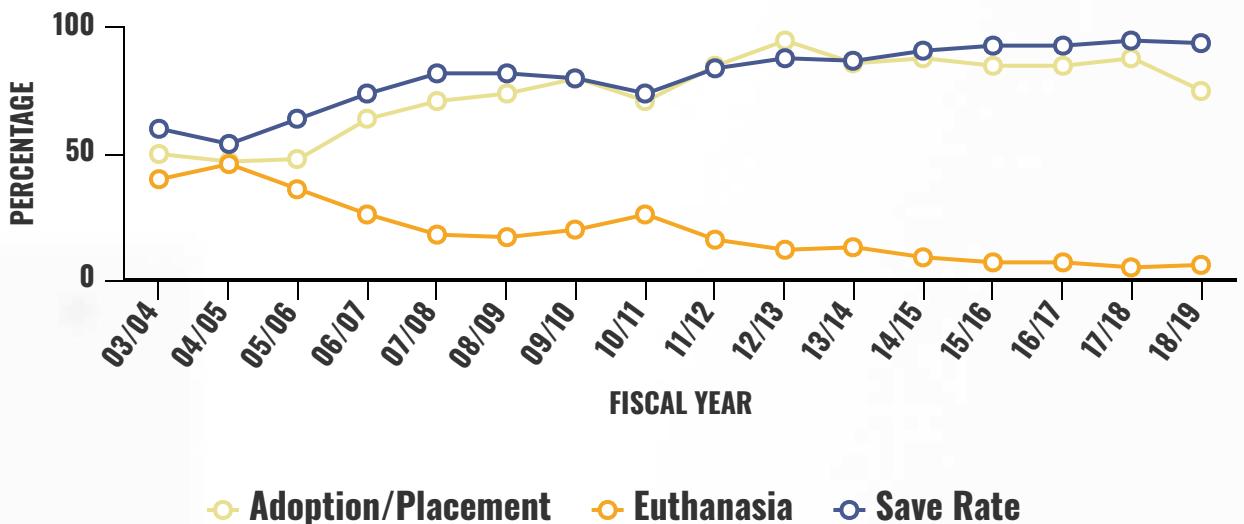
FOSTER CARE



CLINIC SERVICES

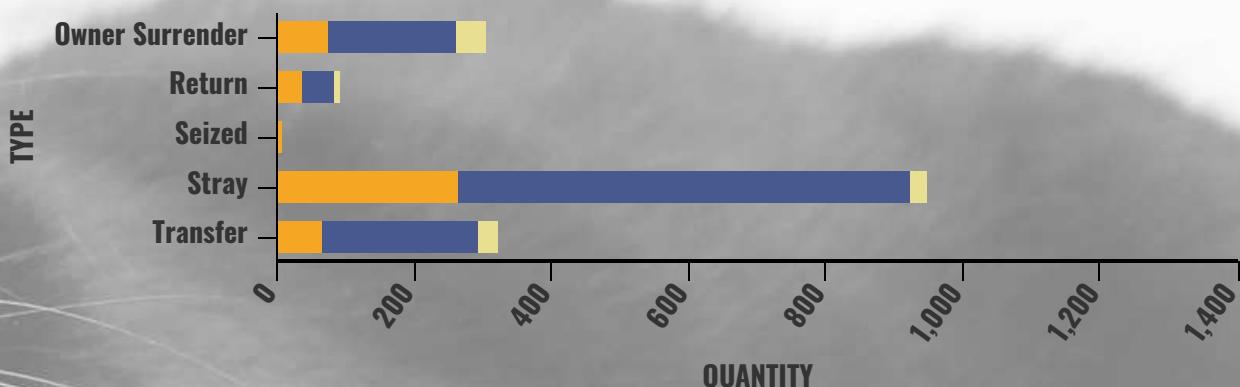
968 *Surgeries*
were performed in Heartland's clinic

HISTORICAL TRENDS

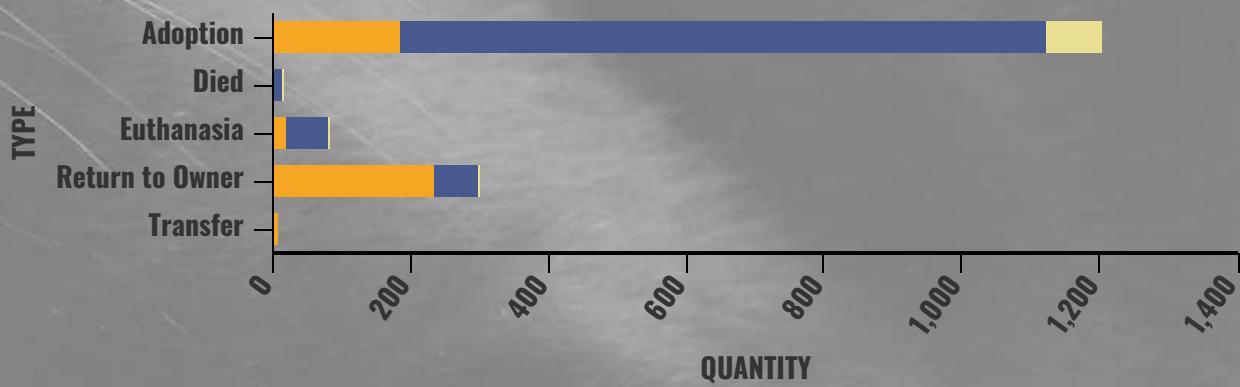


Heartland Humane Society

INTAKES



OUTCOMES



● Dogs ● Cats ● Other

Wine & Whiskers 2019

An epic time was had by all at Wine & Whiskers 2019 - A Tail of Mutts & Magick! Knights, witches, wizards, and creatures galore filled the CH2MHill Alumni Center on March 8th to vie for a fantastic selection of silent and live auction packages while enjoying a wonderful spread by Valley Catering and drinks graciously provided by Block 15.

Our sincerest gratitude to the guests and sponsors that helped raise over \$114,000 for homeless pets and the people that love them! Special thanks to event partners at the Alumni Center, Pat & Pat Fundraising Auctions, Special Occasions, and photographer Scobel Wiggins.

THANK YOU TO OUR AMAZING 2019 SPONSORS

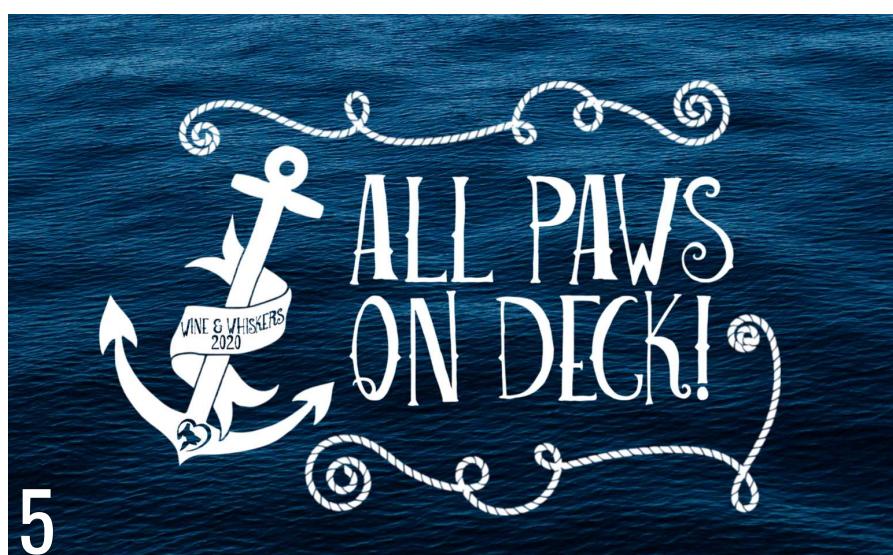
Barker-Uerlings Insurance
Element Graphics, Inc.
PG Long Floorcovering, LLC
Purrs & Wags Pet Sitting
RBC Wealth Management

The Reynolds Law Firm
Town & Country Realty
Valley Catering
West Hills Animal Hospital
Willamette Veterinary Hospital

and Block 15 Brewing Company!

Save the Date

Wine & Whiskers 2020 will be held February 28th, 2020 at CH2MHill Alumni Center. Join us as a sponsor, item donor, or guest! Visit www.heartlandhumane.org/wine-whiskers/ for more information or contact Emily at donate@heartlandhumane.org or 541-757-9000 x109.



HAPPY TAILS *Lucky*



"We came to Heartland just to visit the animals. The second we saw Lucky (formally Dallas) we fell in love. We brought our other dog in to meet him, who doesn't take to many dogs, and they instantly were best friends. They've been attached ever since. Lucky is a playful, sensitive and loving dog. Also, he gives the best cuddles." -Dana M.

Family
Volunteer
Day.



November 11th, 9am-12pm

Animal care, crafts, friendship, fun!
Refreshments provided
All ages welcome

Please RSVP at www.heartlandhumane.org
or contact Lauren Garcia: lauren@heartlandhumane.org
541-757-9000 x108

Volunteer Spotlight

Julia
Weldon



Something to Cluck About: *Adopted Hen Wins County Fair!*

Heartland volunteer and youth leader Julia Weldon adopted Bristol (fka Amelia Egghart) from Heartland in Dec, 2018.

Julia, who has participated in 4-H for five years, showed 18 animals at this year's Benton County Fair. Bristol competed in two shows: Showmanship and Breed. "When I was practicing with her before fair, she had a big attitude and liked to jump off the table. So we gave her a sassy name: Bristol," Julia explained. "I only brought her for showmanship but when I got there, I decided to enter her in breeds for kicks and giggles."

Julia and Bristol won Champion Senior Poultry Showman. Bristol won Champion Standard Bred Large Fowl and Reserve Champion Standard Bred Poultry. Bristol also took home Best Female in Show, a competition which included all chickens, turkeys, ducks, geese, and pigeons. For her efforts, she was awarded a dinner plate belt buckle (seen here). Bristol moves on to compete at the state level at the Oregon State Fair at the end of August!



P.O. Box 1184
Corvallis, OR 97339

Connect with us online



HEARTLAND HUMANE SOCIETY &
MVP GAMES & SPORTS PRESENTS

Poker 4 Pets

50/50 TEXAS HOLD 'EM TOURNAMENT

October 6th, 2019

12:00PM - Lessons and Adoptable Pet Meet & Greet

1:00PM - \$100 + \$10—T40,000 starting chips with an optional
\$15 dealer bonus for T15,000 Chips

Break optional add-on \$40 -T30,000 chips

Unlimited re-entry until break \$100-T40,000 chips

Pizza by Ciddici's Beer & wine available for purchase

Find More Information & Pre-Register at heartlandhumane.org

